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THE TIMES

The international fashion collections, page 14

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ecret service agents pushing the wounded President into the safety of his armoured limousine immediately after the shots were fired. He was driven straight to hospital.

President Reagan shot in chest

From Patrick Brogan
Washington, March 30

President Reagan was shot and seriously wounded outside a Washington hotel this afternoon. Three men with him were also injured. Mr James Brady, the White House press secretary, is said to be seriously wounded.

The President was operated on immediately, and the bullet that had been lodged in his chest was removed. Witnesses said that he had walked into the hospital, holding his right hand against his left side, where some blood could be seen. The seriousness of the wound became known shortly afterwards.

Sources on Capitol Hill reported that the President, who is 70, was given a blood transfusion before undergoing surgery. Earlier reports stated that he had been conscious and speaking to his assistants and to his wife after arriving at the hospital.

Mr Reagan had been addressing a convention of trade unionists at the Washington Hilton. As he left the building, in a light rain at 2.30 pm, a man shouted "Mr President" and opened fire. A secret service man immediately pushed Mr Reagan into his car, and two more bullets hit the vehicle before it got away.

Mr Brady was hit in the head, a secret serviceman was hit in the chest, and a Washington policeman was also shot as the President left the hotel.

The would-be assassin was later identified as John W. Hinkley Jnr, aged 22, from Evergreen, Colorado. He is white, of middle height. He fired six shots at the President with a .22 revolver.

Hinkley was immediately jumped on by police and secret servicemen as the President's car was driven away. The whole scene was recorded on television, by the cameras that always follow American presidents on their travels to record just such an event as this.

The film shows a scene of great confusion. Mr Reagan is seen walking briskly out of the hotel, waving at the few people gathered to see him. The time and place of his movements are published every day.

Then shots are heard and all is confusion. There is a brief scene, endlessly replayed in slow motion, of secret servicement bodily heaving Mr Reagan into his car, which was driven off immediately, while the camera swung around to the seething mass of agents fighting with the gunman.

Mrs Nancy Reagan was immediately driven to the hospital — Washington University Hospital—and she was filmed rushing into the building. Mr George Bush, the Vice-President, who was in Texas, was summoned back to Washington and senior members of the Cabinet gathered in the White House.

With heavy rain beating down upon them, press and camermen kept watch outside the hospital, which is about a mile from the Hilton Hotel, and rather less than that from the White House. The television networks suspended their afternoon programmes and gave continuous live coverage of the event. The Stock Exchange in New York closed precipitously.

Soon after the shooting, Mr Alexander Haig, the Secretary of State announced: "I am in control here in the White House until the Vice-President (Mr George Bush) returns here". He said all members of the Cabinet had assembled in the White House situations room. The armed forces had not been alerted. No decisions about carrying on the government could be taken until the extent of Mr Reagan's injuries were known.

David Cross writes from the Washington University Hospital: A White House spokesman, who came out to talk to drenched reporters waiting outside the concrete and glass entrance here reiterated that the condition of the President was stable.

He said that the President was conscious and that Mrs Reagan was at his side.

He also confirmed that Mr Brady was injured, but was unable to say how badly.

Witnesses outside the hospital said that the President had apparently walked into the hospital unassisted. It appeared that Mr Reagan had not realized at first that he had been hit.

Outside the main hospital entrance, which was cordoned off by police, several dozen spectators watched the comings and goings in one of the most torrential downpours that Washington has experienced for many months.

White House spokesmen promised that they would continue to relay bulletins on the President's condition and the conditions of the other injured officials in due course.

Wall Street stops: The New York Stock Exchange stopped trading minutes after news that President Reagan had been shot and wounded, Exchange spokesmen said.

Trading on the Mid-West Stock Exchange and on the Pacific Exchange options floor was halted, as was all trading in Government bonds.

The financial markets closed at 3.17 pm (20.17 GMT). The normal closing time is 4 pm. The Dow Jones Stock Market psychological 1,000 mark to 977.22 almost immediately on the news.

Michael Leapman writes: Threats against the lives of Presidents have become fairly routine in recent years but, with the secret service giving comprehensive round-the-clock protection, potential assassins seldom get the chance to open fire. resident Ford was the last one to be actually shot at, San Francisco on September 22, 1975.

Sara Jane Moore managed to aim one bullet at the President but a bystander jogged the gun and it missed him. She was then pushed to the ground and arrested. Miss Moore, who had once been an informant for the Federal Bureau on Investigation, was sentenced to life imprisonment.

Sixteen days earlier, Lynette "Squeaky" Fromme, a follower of the mass murderer and cult leader Charles Manson, had pointed a gun at President Ford in Sacramento, California. A Secret Service agent grabbed the gun before she had the chance to fire. She also received a life sentence.

President Carter's greatest peril came in Los Angeles in May, 1979. Police arrested Raymond Lee Harvey, who was found carrying a starting pistol near the President. He said he was part of a four-man assassination plot and two Mexicans were later arrested for complicity. No charges were brought against them because of insufficient evidence.

In June 1972 it was revealed that A. H. Bremer, who in May had shot and crippled Governor George Wallace of Alabama in Maryland, had stalked President Nixon during his visit to Ottawa in April. He had two guns in his car and his diary disclosed that he had sought an opportunity to kill the President but never found one. Mr Wallace was a substitute victim.

In 1968 the secret service reported that since President Kennedy's assassination in 1963 threats against the President had increased by 500 per cent. There were 425 threats against President Johnson in 1967.

Since then, dozens of people have been arrested for trying to break into the grounds of the White House. Sometimes they have tried to smash through the gates with a car and on one or two occasions plots have been reported to crash an aircraft on the presidential residence.

Four American presidents have been assassinated in office: Kennedy in 1963, McKinley in 1901, Garfield in 1881 an Lincoln in 1865. In 1950 two Puerto Rican nationalists tried to shoot their way into Blair House in Washington to kill President Truman, who was living there temporarily. In 1912 former President Theodore Roosevelt was shot and seriously wounded in Milwaukee

Four killed as troops storm Indonesian air liner and free 44

From David Watts
Bangkok, March 30

About 20 troops early this morning stormed the Indonesian Goruda Airways DC-9 being held by five hijackers at Bangkok airport and freed 44 hostages who had been held since Saturday.

[A Thai Government spokesman said that three hijackers and one passenger, a four-year-old child, were killed in the assault, Reuter reports from Bangkok.]

The attack, launched in the early morning darkness, was over in seconds. Heavy machine-gun fire was heard from the front and rear of the aircraft before the hostages, and later the hijackers, came down the steps of the airliner.

It is not known whether the 20 or so crack troops were Thai or Indonesian, but throughout the hijacking drama the Indonesian Government had been pressing the Thais to make such an assault. One unconfirmed report said that a commando assault had been practised oper the weekend in Jakarta.

A single file of troops, wearing steel helmets and battle fatigues, advanced from directly behind the airliner where they had been concealed. Moving slowly, they were able to advance on the aircraft without being noticed by the hijackers. Carrying aluminium ladders to gain access some went to the front of the aircraft and some to the wings. The front passenger door was forced open, and heavy machine-gun fire broke out. Ambulances and fire engines moved into position.

The first hostage to appear was a small boy in white trousers walking down the front steps of the aircraft. Next came a woman and then the first of the surviving hijackers, hands in the air.

The hijacking began on Saturday, when the twin-engined airliner was taken over on a flight from Jakarta to Medan in northern Sumatra. So far, the identity of the hijackers is unknown, but the Indonesians say they are from an extreme Muslim group calling for Indonesia to pursue a pure form of the Islamic faith. It is understood that they may be linked with the group that assaulted the Mosque in Mecca last year.

The hijackers had been demanding the release of 80 prisoners in Indonesia and an airliner to take them to Sri Lanka. The Sri Lankan Government, however, had said it would not accept either the hijackers, or the prisoners. Today the hijackers added another demand, for a ransom of $500,000 (£217,000), and it became clear that the authorities were playing for time. It also became clear that the Indonesians had been less than sincere in promising to carry out the hijackers' demands.

Polish unions suspend strike after new deal

By Leslie Plommer

A threatened general strike in Poland today was suspended last night by Solidarity, the independent trade union federation, saving the country from an industrial conflict that could have been unprecedented in the Communist block.

Negotiators led by Mr Lech Walesa for Solidarity and Mr Mieczyslaw Rakowski, the Deputy Prime Minister, for the Government talked throughout yesterday at Radziwill Palace in Warsaw in an effort to prevent the stoppage.

The immediate point at issue was Solidarity's demand for punishment of police involved in an incident on March 19 at Bydgoszcz, when Solidarity officials allegedly were beaten up by plain-clothes police.

Solidarity has called a meeting of its leadership for today at its national headquarters in Gdansk to take a final decision on the strike call.

According to a joint statement, the communist authorities have agreed to put on trial and punish those responsible for the Bydgoszcz incident.

The Government will pay in full the millions of workers who went on strike for four hours on Friday to back Solidarity's demands, and will set up a special commission to study the case of farmers, who wish to form their own independent union, and to submit proposals by April 5.

Solidarity promised to halt protests which caused tension, including occupation of public buildings. It also conceded that police intervention in Bydgoszcz was partly justified by extreme tension in the city, where farmers have been occupying a government building. But the Government promised to withdraw immediately special police units from Bydgoszcz.

Under the agreement, the Government also undertook to examine demands for the dismissal of the Bydgoszcz Deputy Governor, guarantee Solidarity's security and set up a commission to consider the union's demands in dissidents.

The union, on its side, has accepted the need to enter negotiations to create mechanisms for settling disputes without rousing the entire nation.

Several thousand people gathered outside the government building where the talks were held to await the decision, and they lifted Mr Walesa's car into the air after it was announced.

"It is a great achievement," he told a news conference, which was shown on television. But not everyone will be able to understand it and there will be objections." He added that he considered it to be a "70 to 80 per cent" success.

"Many people helped us," he said, "including the Pope. We would not have been able to solve the problem alone."

The Communist Party Central Committee met into the early hours yesterday seeking a way to stop the strike. Several Politburo members threatened to resign after strong criticism from the floor.

They were dissuaded, however.

But the struggle between the party's moderates and hardliners seems as far as ever from being resolved.

West's warning, page 8

Treasury denies economists' claim that Tory policies are damaging economy

By Frances Williams

Ministers yesterday challenged the outspoken and unprecedented attack by 364 university economists on the Government's handling of the economy.

The Treasury took the unusual step of a formal response strongly denying the academics' assertions that present policies were damaging the economy and had no foundation in economic theory or in experience.

The text of the official response reads: "The Government has read with interest the four points to which these 364 economists subscribe. The Government, however, agrees with the substantial school of economists which do believe that there is a strong connexion between monetary growth and the rate of inflation, and has itself set out its thinking on this in evidence to the Treasury Select Committee.

"So far as output and employment are concerned, the Government's supply side policies have been designed with the objective of raising both output and employment specifically in mind. But experience has shown that injections of monetary demand can at best have a limited effect, and are ultimately counter-productive.

"For these reasons, the Government totally disagrees with the assertion that present policies will deepen the depression and weaken the United Kingdom's industrial base. Countries pursuing policies broadly of the kind being implemented here are those with the strongest industrial base.

"It is conspicuous that although the 364 economists assert that there are alternative policies, they are unable to specify any such agreed alternatives."

But the Government's strategy was defended by a number of academics, including Dr Alan Budd, of the London Business School, Professor Patrick Minford of Liverpool University, and Mr Roy Batchelor of the City University.

Leading article, page 17
List of signatories, page 20

Farmer in Brussels protest dies

From Michael Hornsby
Brussels, March 30

A meeting of EEC agriculture ministers discussing increases in farm prices this year was adjourned tonight after a French formers' union leader was run down and killed outside the headquarters of the European Council of Ministers.

The man, identified as Roger Levevre, president of the Nord-Pas de Calais section of the French Farmers' Union, was hit by a passing car.

He had been blocking the road with some 2,000 other vociferous demonstrators demanding even higher price increases

Bank of England chief cautious on recovery

Mr Gordon Richardson, the Governor of the Bank of England, has refrained from joining ministers, including Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Chancellor, who says that the bottom of the recession has been reached or will be reached later this year. In evidence to the Commons Select Committee on the Treasury, he said that it was impossible to predict when the economy would turn, and that when it did, recovery would be weak. However he endorsed the Government's refusal to slacken its fight against inflation and the decision to cut public borrowing. He said that if companies and individuals could cut costs by becoming more efficient, growth without inflation could be attainable. A cut in borrowing would take some pressure off interest rates. Page 19

Whitehall strike cost to taxpayer

Industrial action by civil servants has forced the Government to borrow an additional £800m to offset a reduction in tax revenue. Interest charges on this loan could be costing the taxpayer about £2m a week. Page 19

Domestic rates up by 19.6%

Domestic ratepayers will pay an average of 19.6 per cent more in England and Wales than in the year just ended, according to figures issued by the Rating and Valuation Association Page 2

Stand on fish zone dropped

There were strong indications in the Commons that the Government had abandoned its stand that any agreement on the EEC common fisheries policy must include a dominant position for British fishermen in the zone around Britain Page 2

Former Premier of Trinidad dies

News of the death of Dr Eric Williams, the Prime Minister of Trinidad and Tobago who died suddenly on Sunday night, was delayed for 12 hours while President Ellis Clark appointed a successor Page 8

Racial equality body criticized

The Commission for Racial Equality had been given the greatest powers in the Western world to combat racial discrimination but had not used them, an MP said at an inquiry by a Commons select committee Page 6

Paris: M Mendès-France explains why he is supporting the Socialist M Mitterrand 8

CBI waste watch: Sir Terence Beckett, director-general, said that CBI is to set up a "task force" to check on waste in government spending
Business diary, page 23

Classified advertisements: Personal, page 30; Sale rooms and antiques, 15; Legal appointments, 15; Other appointments, 14

Politicians' choice named Bishop of London

By Clifford Longley
Religious Affairs Correspondent

An extraordinary tug-of-war between the Prime Minister backed by the Leader of the Opposition on the one hand and the Queen and the Archbishop of Canterbury on the other ended yesterday with the announcement that the Bishop of Truro, Dr Graham Leonard, is to be the new Bishop of London—a victory for Mrs Margaret Thatcher.

Dr Leonard was not the first choice submitted by the Crown Appointments Commission of the Church of England, it was clear yesterday. The archbishop, Dr Robert Runcie, is chairman of the commission, and spent some time with Mrs Thatcher urging her to accept its advice.

Dr Leonard, a controversial figure who has doggedly opposed several recent trends in Anglicanism, including the ordination of women, had most of the dignatories of the diocese of London ranged against him. The five suffragan bishops, and the Dean and Chapter of St Paul's, did not endorse his nomination. The favoured alternatives included the Bishop of Durham, Dr John Habgood, and the Bishop of Wakefield, the Rt Rev Colin James.

The question of principle at stake was whether men who are opposed the present drift of church policy on certain key issues should be promoted to high office, or whether majority decisions of the General Synod of the Church of England should be regarded as decisive in shaping the church leadership of the future. That has been coloured by the strong likes and dislikes that Dr Leonard seems to have inspired, his friends calling him gifted and his enemies saying that he is too clever by half.

It is said by usually sound sources that the Queen felt the



Dr Leonard, Bishop of London elect, and his wife, Priscilla.

Church of England's own selection process, centred on the Crown Appointments Commission, should prevail. The "stop Truro" campaign, having won its battle at the commission stage, would have meant the appointment of Dr Habgood, or possibly a compromise candidate, such as the Bishop of Wakefield.

Mrs Thatcher, strongly lobbied by Dr Leonard's supporters, was quickly won over to his side. The result was a period of deadlock which was broken, it is said, when Mr Michael Foot was recruited as a supporter of Dr Leonard. With the Government's advice backed up by the Opposition in that way, the Queen was bound to accept Dr Leonard.

It appears that the Crown Appointments Commission, which has the right to submit two names in order of preference, did not include Dr Leonard in its official advice. The Prime Minister has the right to ask the commission to suggest one or two further names, and the commission has the right to decline to do so. Had Dr Leonard's name been put forward by the commission to the Prime Minister, even as second preference, the Prime Minister would have had the right to recommeed it to the Queen without further argument.

It was a triumph for the so-called "Anglo-Catholic group" in the diocese of London, which was defeated in 1973 on the same battlefield. The Anglo-Catholic candidate then was also Dr Graham Leonard, at that time suffragan Bishop of Willesden in London. The appointment went to the then Bishop of Chester, Dr Gerald Ellison; Dr Leonard was given his own diocese, at Truro; and he now succeeds his old rival to the third most senior position in the Church of England, after the Archbishoprics of Canterbury and York.

The process of appointing bishops in the Church of England are cloaked in great secrecy, and even small details rarely leak out. But this is thought to be the first time the occupant of 10 Downing Street has gone against the will of the church as expressed by the appointments commission. Mr Frank White, Labour MP for Bury and Radcliffe, was being named yesterday as the key man in bringing Mr Foot into the battle.

A highly placed churchman in the London diocese said after the announcement that it now remained to be seen whether those dignatories who had threatened to resign if Dr Leonard was appointed, would do so; and whether the Dean and Chapter of St Paul's would obey the formal instruction to vote for Dr Leonard at the chapter election.

Since the Reformation, cathedral chapters have had little choice but to consent to the royal nominee. If the St Paul's chapter rebelled, it is difficult to say what would happen.

The situation could have arisen in 1973, when at least one canon of St Paul's declined to vote for Dr Ellison as part of the Anglo-Catholic protest at the rejection of Lr Leonard. Ecclesiastical lawyers said at the time that disobedience to the royal command constituted the offence of praemunire, which used to carry ferocious punishment but for which all penalties had now been repealed.

Dr Leonard himself stood apart from the controversy surrounding his appointment when he gave a press conference in London yesterday, expressing the hope that he could overcome any resistance to his appointment by personal contact.

He is 60 in May, and generally regarded in the church as one of its most intelligent figures. He has qualifications in both science and theology, and was a junior "boffin" in the Army during the Second World War. He studied at Balliol College, Oxford, and later at Westcott House theological college, from which he was ordained priest in 1948.

Labour set for 'biggest fight of 1981'

By Christopher Warman
Local Government Correspondent

Mr Michael Foot, leader of the Labour Party, yesterday launched Labour's campaign for the Greater London Council election on May 7. "This is the most important political event to take place in this country this year", he said.

It would provide the first main occasion for voters to show what they thought of the Conservative government and its policies for local government, and he confidently predicted victory in London and considerable successes elsewhere in the elections in the English and Welsh counties.

Mr Foot said that London more than anw other city in the country had suffered because of the Government's attitude to local authorities and the measures it had imposed. "It is the Tory government at Westminster which is responsible for the rate increases and rent increases which have imposed a heavy extra burden on the people of London".

The Greater London Council has 63 Conservatives and 29 Labour, and Labour needs a swing of 9.5 per cent compared with the last election in 1977, or just 2.1 per cent since the 1979 general election to give the party a majority.

Mr Andrew McIntosh, leader of the Labour group, believed the party would gain about sixty seats out of the 92. He told yesterday's press conference that Labour would emphasize in its campaign the need to mount an urgent rescue in the face of the worst decline in living standards that Londoners had suffered for years.

"It is now obvious that the election of a Tory government two years ago was a disaster for London. Unemployment has grown by 120,000, and the Government has turned out to be fiercely anti-London, and this year took over £500,000 away from London."

Both he and Mr Foot invoked the support of Herbert Morrison, father of London municipal government. Mr McIntosh proudly used Morrison's comment during the 1934 election campaign for the municipal reform party: "Money raised by rates and spent on social services may be the truest economy."

The Labour group has in its manifesto a programme to improve public transport, starting with a reduction in London Transport fares by 25 per cent, revive the housing programme and create 10,000 jobs.

It has costed the programme. Mr McIntosh said that to introduce the fares cut in October will mean a supplementary rate of 6p to 8p, while the package of policies will by 1983-84 add another £1 a week to the average household's rate bill, equivalent to a 20p rate and costing about £400m.

"This appears very modest when compared with the fact that Mr Heseltine has taken £500m away from London

Mr McIntosh said that Labour intended action on jobs, transport and housing. "The Tories, having caused most of the problems and ignored the rest, are completely bankrupt of ideas and energy."

"All they can offer in this campaign are allegations or extremism. They have been quoted as saying that the London Labour Party 'has abandoned the moderate traditions of Herbert Morrison'".

Mr McIntosh said that Labour stood united. All 92 Labour candidates abided by the manifesto and there was no split between the left and the right.

He accepted that Mr Kenneth Livingstone, whom he beat for the leadership by one vote, would challenge him for the post. "That is his right, but we have no policy differences."

Mr McIntosh dismissed the challenge of candidates representing the Social Democratic Alliance, who include former Labour members of the GLC such as Dr Stephen Haseler, Mr Douglas Eden and Mr James Daly.

Ecology stand: The Ecology Party announced yesterday its intention to field between 40 and 45 candidates in the GLC election.

The party seeks a restructured economy, emphasizing local production for local needs, a more accountable, open and democratic system of local government, community involvement at home, at school and at work, and a healthy, safer environment.

Leading article, page 17



Photograph by Bill Warhurst

Mr Foot launching the election campaign in London yesterday. Mr McIntosh is second from right.

Domestic rates will go up by an average of 19.6%

By Our Local Government Correspondent

The latest figures for rate increases next year, issued yesterday by the Rating and Valuation Association, show that domestic ratepayers will be paying an average of 19.6 per cent more in England and Wales than in the year just ending.

That estimate compares with an increase of 20.5 per cent predicted by the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy one week ago. The difference is caused by the association using a weighted average to take account of the number of properties in each authority area.

For commercial and industrial ratepayers the average increase is 17 per cent.

Domestic rate increases vary considerably throughout England and Wales, averaging 40 per cent in inner London, 31.5 per cent in outer London, 26 per cent in the metropolitan areas, 12 per cent in English non-metropolitan areas and 19 per cent in Wales.

Commenting on the figures, the association states that Mr Michael Heseltine, Secretary of State for the Environment, was careful not to predict a national average figure when he announced the Government's rate support grant last December. He said that if local authorities planned for a nexpenditure target 5.6 per cent below their spending in 1978-79 and budgeted for a cash limit of 6 per cent for salaries and wages and 11 per cent for prices, then "rate increases should be contained

The association questioned whether those targets, and the extra cost to local government after the national budget and the extent of the shift of grant from London and the metropolitan districts to the shire counties, were reasonable.

"Can it really be that only central government has gots its figures right and all the local authority treasurers and finance committee chairmen have got theirs wrong."

Many councils that had followed government guidelines found themselves with big percentage increases in rates. The association questioned the changing of the spending targets by the Government and the uncertainties surrounding the new block grant system

The association accused the Government of not only changin gthe rules during play but moving the goalposts.

"Local government fi... appears to be in a ... through no fault of its ...

The association viewed ... dismay the suggested r... reform of the rating syste... said that before central g... ment created more cha... messing about with the ... system it should get it... support grant system rig...

Figures published by ... association come from ... from 341 of the 403 ... authorities in England ... Wales. Variations in ... poundage are enormous ... the statistics show that th... system has not brought ... closer together, as was in...

AVERAGE DOMESTIC RATE PAYMENTS

Authority	Average Domestic Ratable Value £	Rate Payable 1981-82 £	Rate Payable 1980-81 £
London			
Camden	358	576.74	424.94
Islington	295	423.91	347.80
Kensington & Chelsea	529	564.97	371.88
Westminster	531	480.02	376.48
Croydon	302	240.09	185.73
Harrow	302	404.68	306.53
Merton	274	268.52	228.79
Richmond	287	242.52	242.52
Metropolitan districts			
Birmingham	202	249.47	180.79
Bradford	123	157.56	131.12
Manchester	165	308.05	227.86
Newcastle	154	314.93	243.32
Non-metropolitan districts			
Bristol	170	209.93	199.39
Chester	206	251.32	236.90
Exeter	178	183.35	165.00
Maidstone	191	202.84	180.47
Nuneaton	194	236.77	223.10
Wales			
Cardiff	172	168.99	147.57
Carmarthen	97	99.33	89.04
Newport	150	185.10	160.02
Swansea	132	202.36	166.72

Tax staff intensify protest-action

By David Felton
Labour Reporter

Industrial action by civil servants in the Inland Revenue was strengthened yesterday after threats by the management that workers carrying out blacking action would be suspended if they refused to carry out instructions.

The Civil Service unions claimed that thousands of Inland Revenue workers walked out yesterday afternoon in protest at the threatened suspensions and from this morning 75 mainly senior staff will start an indefinite strike.

The unions also claimed that tomorrow's meeting of the National Economic Development Council will be disrupted. A day of protest to coincide with the date from which the Civil Service pay agreement is due to run has been planned for tomorrow, and the National Economic Development Office in Millbank Tower, London, will be picketed.

A spokesman for the Council of Civil Service Unions said the five general secretaries of leading unions and Mr Len Murray, TUC general secretary, who form the union side of the NEDC, had indicated that they will not cross the picket line to attend the meeting.

Intensified action in the Inland Revenue had been expected after the statement at the weekend by Lord Soames, minister responsible for the Civil Service, that workers who did not work normally, should not expect to be paid.

Staff in 15 regional tax offices were asked to process and bank cheques which would usually have passed through the PAYE computer centres at Shipley, near Bradford, and Cumbernauld, near Glasgow, where more than 1,000 people are on strike. The staff were told that if they refused, they would be suspended.

The unions said that as a result of the management's action four assistant group controllers at each of the 15 regional tax offices would start an indefinite strike today, along with the manager of a tax collection office in each of the 15 regions. All the staff are members of the Inland Revenue Staff Federation.

More than 500 workers in 23 crown and county courts are to join the strike this week. Yesterday 16 courts were affected and the remaining seven will suffer disruption later in the week.

The unions said the action, at the start of the fourth week of the pay dispute, was expected to close the courts which are mainly in the North, South Wales and London. They were prepared to continue the overall action "for months and months" if the Government refused to reopen negotiations on their claim.

The action by customs staff in North East and Scottish ports could delay sailings of vessels ervicing North Sea oil rigs.

Diary, page 16

Whitehall brief: Defining 'essential' civil servants the big difficulty

Tories interest in no-strike pact rekindled

By Peter Hennessy

The spectacle of large chunks of the Government's tax-gathering system effectively paralysed by strikes, plus sections of its defence machine similarly affected by selective action, has rekindled interest among Conservative backbenchers in a single sentence on page 12 of their party's manifesto for the 1979 election.

It reads: "We will . . . seek to conclude no-strike agreements in a few essential services." The idea was revived in the Government's Green Paper on *Trade Union Immunities* published in January. Mr Michael Neubert, Conservative MP for Havering, Romford, has been the most persistent advocate of applying the principle to the Civil Service, raising it at question time with the Prime Minister, the Chancellor of the Exchequer and the Minister of State at the Civil Service Department.

Replying to Mr Neubert, and to two more Tory backbenchers, Mr Christopher Patten, MP for Bath, and Mr William Waldegrave, MP for Bristol, West, ministers have treated the idea with sympathy and said it was not ruled out in any settlement that might be found to end the present dispute.

How would a no-strike agreement for the Civil Service work? In a letter to *The Times* last week, Mr Patten and Waldegrave, suggested offering a statutorily backed arbitration procedure in return for such an undertaking from "an inner core of essential public servants". They would hold out to the state a guarantee of continued service and receive a commitment to sustain the real value of their pay and pensions.

Mr Neubert wants the principle applied to those with "power to pull out the plug", chiefly in computerized installations, particularly those in defence and revenue raising. He is wary of index-linking pay and suggests that it might simply be a matter of giving higher salaries to key workers, the tidiest solution overall being a system that matches that of the Armed Forces, where strikes are forbidden by law.

Mr Peter Jones, secretary of the Council of Civil Service Unions, describes such ideas as "baying for the moon". He said that there would be no strike if the Government had sustained the traditional system of determining pay on the basis of fair comparisons with the private sector.

How would "essential" civil servants be defined, he asks. The Ministry of Defence accounts for a third of the total and, between them, the Departments of Health and Social Security and Employment for another quarter.

Mr Jones says that for the idea to be cogent, "we would have to have an absolute cast-iron assurance of comparability regardless of cash limits, and unfettered arbitration in the case of disputes or guaranteed conciliation in non-arbitrable areas. In another words, the Government would have to hand over its political responsibility for managing Civil Service pay to a third party above politics".

As good a person as any to arbitrate between the Neubert-Patten-Waldegrave position and that of Mr Jones is Lord Croham, Head of the Home Civil Service, from 1974 to 77.

When asked for a judgment, Lord Croham's immediate response was to say: "I would not start from here."

Lord Croham believes that to make it work the year's time-lag, whereby private-sector figures from the last pay round determine Civil Service salaries in the present one, will have to be removed if the Government, in a period of falling inflation, is not to be presented with highly embarrassing claims from its employees.

Singling out essential workers would be difficult as it would mean a clerical officer in a non-sensitive area getting less than another doing similar work in a vital establishment. How would it be enforced unless the legal immunities of trade unions had not been fundamentally altered already?

"You might, with a lot of hard work from both ministers and unions, sustain it by a morale factor and not by sanctions. If you are relying on esteem—that such people would not strike—you have to recreate that esteem at the lower levels."

Lord Croham concluded that the great difficulty in fixing a no-strike arrangement for the Civil Service lies in "clearing the ground to get to a starting point for the new system. As you are starting from a point where there is a dispute, I would have thought it quite impossible to end it by applying this method".

Liberals to oppose SDA in local poll

By Ian Bradley

Liberals and social democrats will be fighting one another in the Greater London Council elections in May.

The London Liberal Party has rejected the idea of an electoral agreement with the Social Democratic Alliance which has announced its intention of putting up eight candidates. The alliance was set up in 1975 as a right-wing pressure group within the Labour Party.

The Liberals have 88 candidates in the field and are hoping, if possible, to contest all 92 seats on the GLC.

Mr William Pitt, chairman of the London Liberals, said yesterday that they felt it was wrong to enter into any local pacts with the social democrats before there had been national agreement between the two parties.

He also pointed out that the alliance candidates do not have the backing of the Council for Social Democracy which considers that it is premature to fight the county council elections and has refused to endorse any candidates put up for them.

At a meeting on Sunday of the eight Liberal candidates selected to fight the seats which the alliance is contesting pledged their determination not to stand down.

He said that pacts between Liberals and social democrats had been made in Lincolnshire, where eight social democrats and 30 Liberals would fight the county council with each other's support, and in Humberside and Shropshire.

Meanwhile, more social democrats have announced that they are entering the fray. Tynemouth social democrats will fight three out of eight local seats on Tyne and Wear County Council. They include Mr Antony Glister, a former Conservative candidate.

Three killed by fumes in dockyard

From Our Correspondent
Dunfermline

Three painters died of gassing in the Royal Navy Dockyard at Rosyth, Fife, yesterday.

They were overcome by fumes while working inside a dock caisson. A fourth man who was taken to hospital after being gassed was said to be improving.

The Ministry of Defence said no naval personnel or vessels were involved and an inquiry had been set up by the dockyard.

The three dead men were Mr Michael Connolly, aged 49, single, of Kenilworth Terrace, Lochore, Fife; Mr James Brown, aged 27, single of Inchgall Avenue, Crosshill, Fife; and Mr John Mathewson, aged 54, a widower, of Launcherhead Road, Lochgelly, Fife.

The survivor is Mr Brian Hubbocks, of Argyle Road, Kinross.

MPs worri[ed] by stand on fishing

By Hugh Noyes
Parliamentary Correspon[dent]
Westminster

There were strong indicat[ions] in the Commons yesterday [that] the Government has abando[ned] its firm stand that any ag[ree]ment on an EEC com[mon] fisheries policy must inc[lude] a dominant position for Bri[tish] fishermen in the 12 to 50 [mile] zone around our shores.

Anxious MPs pressed [Mr] Peter Walker, Minister [of] Agriculture, Fisheries and F[ood] when he told the House of another failure to secur[e a] common policy, to give [an] assurance that there had [been] no yielding on that demand.

Mr Enoch Powell, Offi[cial] Ulster Unionist MP for Do[wn] South, pointed out that [the] position on the dominant z[one] had been approved by the wh[ole] House. He urged Mr Walker [to] clear up the confusion.

Earlier Mr Roy Mas[on] Opposition spokesman on a[gri]culture, also pressed Mr Wal[ker] to say whether British dema[nds] over the preferential zone w[ere] being sacrificed.

To all of these anxieties, [Mr] Walker was unusually vag[ue]. He told the House that [last] week he had bilateral talks w[ith] the French minister, when British requirements over acc[ess] were discussed in detail and [at] length.

On the dominant zone, [the] minister said there was to [be] agreement between the indus[try] and the Government.

Earlier, Mr Walker said [the] Government was making [an]other £25m aid availabe to [the] industry.

Parliamentary report, page ...

Peer makes a final plea for bats

By Our Parliamentary Correspondent
Westminster

With a final flourish over the red-breasted merganzer, the common toad, the slow worm and the marsh harrier, the House of Lords last night gave a third reading to the controversial and much amended Wildlife and Countryside Bill.

Conservationists, environmentalists and farmers, many with considerable reservations about the usefulness of a measure so riddled with compromise, united to wish it well.

But Lord Craigton made one more impassioned appeal for the cause dearest to his heart. So far as bats are concerned, he said, the legislation was leaving the House in a faulty and unfinished state. Much more needed to be done to clarify the position of bats in households.

No one except Lord Craigton seemed to be worrying very much about bats at that stage. The Bill, which was given its second reading on December 16 and began the day yesterday with 550 amendments behind it, was faced with another 169 amendments, many from still unsatisfied elements fighting rearguard actions.

The two liveliest battles were over the misuse of airguns and the worrying of sheep in fields of less than 25 hectares. The Government suffered its only defeat of the day on the issue of banning airguns to shoot animals, other than pests, by 92 votes to 82.

On sheep worrying, the Government carried the day after it was pointed out that dog owners would find it difficult to know when they were in field of under 25 hectares and that in any case the present law provided adequate protection.

Lord Melchett, for the Opposition, who was congratulated from the Conservative benches for showing a remarkable knowledge of wildlife, expressed considerable doubts about the prospects for the voluntary code of practice for sites of special scientific interest. It would not protect the wildlife habitats

Parliamentary report, page 10

TUC in talks to reform press body

From Donald Macintyre
Labour Reporter
Norwich

The TUC and the Press Council are holding a series of meetings in an attempt to reform the council's composition, powers and complaints procedures. More talks are likely in the coming weeks.

The discussions, which have been led on the union side by Mr Mostyn Evans, chairman of the TUC media working group, have been given added impetus by last year's decision by the National Union of Journalists to withdraw its four representatives from the council on the ground of its alleged unfairness to trade unions.

Mr Francis Beckett, president of the NUJ, told the union's annual conference in Norwich yesterday that he welcomed the talks and added: "If really substantial changes are agreed, I would not put it beyond the bounds of possibility that they might enable us to return to the Press Council".

Mr Becket warned delegates, who are due to discuss finance today, that the union's cash crisis was far from over. The union was overdrawn by £30,000. It owed £50,000 to the Danish Union of Journalists which had made an interest-free loan to the NUJ, and outstanding bills amounted to £26,000. The total debt was therefore £106,000 apart from "heavy mortgage repayments" on the union's headquarters in Gray's Inn Road, London.

However, motions proposing a freeze on expenditure this year and for savings to be made by holding the union's conference one every two years instead of annually, were both defeated.

Challenge to Chancellor on recession

By Our Political Reporter

Mr Michael Foot, Leader of the Opposition, last night called upon the Prime Minister and Sir Geoffrey Howe, Chancellor of the Exchequer, to produce evidence for their claims that the recession was "bottoming

The Labour leader said that the more the evidence against them accumulated, the more the experts denied their theories "the louder they squeak and squeal".

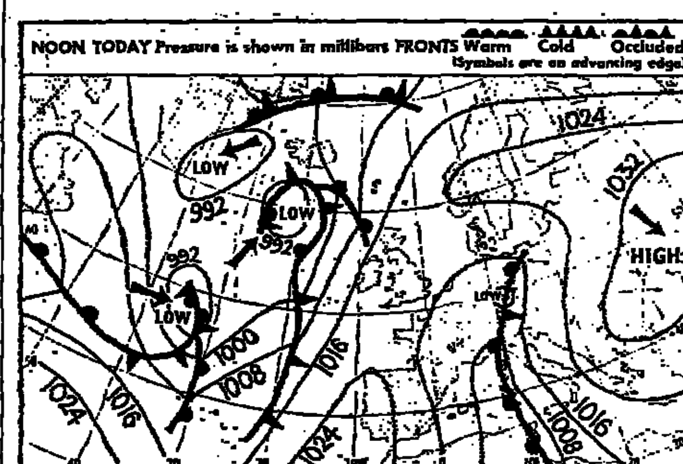
Mr Foot told a Labour Party meeting in Newham, London, that the bare truth was that the "Thatcher-Howe policies just do not work and the advice they are receiving from all quarters is that they must change their course if Britain is not to suffer the most serious industrial collapse

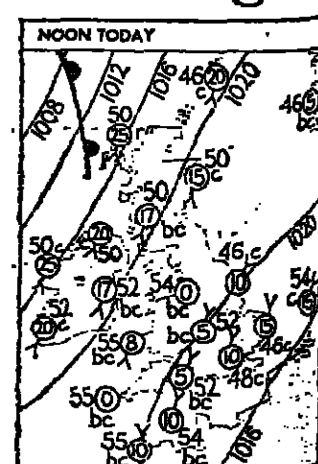
Mr Foot said that the Government had been warned by the TUC, CBI, the all-party select committee of the House of Commons, and City "and now the combined weight of hundreds of academics, including a number of economic advisers to previous governments, tell them they are deeply, desperately wrong".

Tory peer joins SDP

Lord Vernon, aged 58, a Conservative, last night joined the Social Democrats, bringing to 22 the number of peers from all sides of the House of Lords who have joined the new party.

Weather forecast and recordings





b—blue sky; bc—half clouded; c—cloudy; o—overcast; f—fog; d—drizzle; h—hail; m—mist; r—rain; s—snow; th—thunderstorm; p—showers; pr—periodical rain with snow. Wind speed in mph.

Today

Sun rises: 6.39 am. Sun sets: 7.32 pm
Moon rises: 4.47 am. Moon sets: 1.55 pm
New moon: April 4.

Lighting up: 8.02 pm to 6.06 am.
High water: London Bridge, 10.28 am, 5.5m; 10.57 pm, 5.6m. Avonmouth, 3.24 am, 9.8m; 4.11 pm, 10.1m. Dover, 8.06 am, 5.1m; 8.41 pm, 5.3m. Hull, 3.15 am, 5.7m; 3.37 pm, 5.8m. Liverpool, 8.13 am, 7.4m; 8.56pm, 7.4m. 1ft=0.3048m. 1m=3.2808ft.

A ridge of high pressure will be slow-moving over N and central areas but pressure will remain low to the SE.

Forecasts for 6 am to midnight:

London, SE, E England, East Anglia: Dull at first with rain here and there, becoming brighter inland; wind N, moderate; max temp 8° to 12°C (46° to 54°F).

Central S England, E Midlands, Channel Islands: Dull at first, becoming brighter, perhaps some sunny intervals, with scattered showers; wind N, light; max temp 10° to 12°C (50° to 54F°).

W Midlands, Wales, Lake District, central N, NW England: Dry, bright or sunny periods in most places; wind variable, light; max temp 12° to 15°C (54° to 59°F).

SW England: Dry, bright or sunny periods; wind mainly N, light; max temp 13° to 14°C (55° 57°F).

Isle of Man: Dry, bright or sunny periods; wind SW, light; max temp 11°C (52°F).

NE England: Dry, bright or sunny intervals in most places; wind variable, light; max temp 9°C (48°F).

Borders, Edinburgh, Dundee, Aberdeen, SW, NE Scotland, Glasgow, central Highlands, Moray Firth: Dry, bright or sunny periods; wind S to SW, moderate: max temp 12° to 15°C (54° to 59°F).

Outlook for tomorrow and Thursday: Dry and rather warm in many places with some sunshine after overnight fog patches, but parts of the SE will have occasional rain. Rain also in the SW.

Sea passages: S North Sea, Straits of Dover, English Channel (E): Wind NE, light or moderate locally fresh; sea slight.

Yesterday

London: Temp: max 7 am to 7 pm, 9°C, (48°F); min 7 pm to 7 am, 8°C, (46°F). Humidity, 7 pm, 92 per cent. Rain, 24 hr to 7 pm, 0.35in. Sun, 24 hr to 7 pm, nil. Bar, mean sea level, 7 pm 1016 millibars, rising.
1,000 millibars = 29.53in.

WEATHER REPORTS YESTERDAY MIDDAY: c, cloud; f, fair; r, rain; s, sun.

		C	F			C	F			C	F			C	F
Akrotiri	s	19	66	Chicago	r	10	50	Lisbon	c	12	54	Nice	r	14	57
Algiers	r	16	61	Cologne	f	14	57	Locarno	r	9	48	Paris	c	15	59
Amstrdm	c	13	55	Copenhgn	f	8	46	London	c	9	48	Reykjavik	c	5	41
Athens	s	9	48	Edinburgh	c	10	50	Luxembrg	c	13	55	Rome	f	22	72
Barcelona	f	18	61	Florence	r	16	61	Madrid	r	12	54	S Fransco	c	6	43
Beirut	s	18	64	Geneva	r	9	48	Majorca	f	18	64	Stockholm	c	4	39
Belfast	s	11	52	Gibraltar	r	12	54	Malaga	r	12	54	Tel Aviv	s	19	66
Berlin	c	16	61	Guernsey	fog	8	46	Malta	s	21	70	Toronto	r	10	50
Bermuda	f	18	64	Helsinki	c	2	36	Miami	f	22	72	Venice	r	13	55
Biarritz	f	14	57	Innsbruck	r	19	66	Montreal	r	7	45	Vienna	c	13	55
Birmnghm	r	8	46	Istanbul	f	10	50	Munich	f	14	57	Vancouver	r	7	45
Bristol	c	9	48	Jersey	c	9	48	Naples	f	26	79	Washngtn	c	13	55
Brussels	r	13	55	L Palmas	f	19	66	New York	f	14	57	Zurich	c	9	48

Overseas selling prices
Australia $2; Austria Sch 20; Bahrain BD 0.650; Belgium B frs 35; Canada ...; Cyprus 450 mils; Denmark ...; Dubai Dir 7.00; Finland ...; France Frs 4.50; Germany Dm 3.00; Greece Dr 50; Holland Gl 2.50; Iran ...; Iraq ID 0.500; Irish Republic 30p; Italy L 1100; Jordan ...; Kuwait KD 0.400; Lebanon ...; Luxembourg Lf 35; Madeira Esc 50; Malta 20c; Morocco Dir 5.11; Norway Kr 6.00; Oman OR 0.700; Pakistan Rps 10; Portugal Esc 50; Qatar ...; Saudi Arabia SR ...; Singapore $4.5; Spain Pts 100; Sweden Skr 5.00; Switzerland S Frs 3.00; Syria ...; Tunisia Din 0.450; UAE Dir 7.00; Canada $1.50; Yugoslavia Din 40.

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Republican stands down to leave Maze hunger striker favourite for Ulster by-election

From Christopher Thomas
Enniskillen, co Fermanagh

Mr Robert Sands, the Provisional IRA hunger striker, is favoured to win the Fermanagh and South Tyrone by-election on April 9 after some intensive manoeuvring in the nationalist camp yesterday.

It is now a straight fight between Mr Sands, serving 14 years for possession of firearms, and Mr Harold West of the Official Unionists, a farmer, landowner, former MP and ex-Stormont cabinet minister.

The Rev Ian Paisley's Democratic Unionist Party, fearing a humiliating defeat in a constituency where it traditionally has little support announced at lunchtime that it was not going to contend.

The executive of the Social Democratic and Labour Party, voice of the moderate Roman Catholics of Northern Ireland, also declared that it would not fight because it wanted to concentrate on the local elections in May. It appears that while the local constituency party was anxious to field a candidate, the executive feared that it might perform badly.

That calculation, however, was made before yesterday's events. Mr Noel Maguire, brother of Mr Frank Maguire, the late MP, withdrew his nomination 12 minutes before the 4 pm deadline.

Mrs Bernadette McAliskey, former MP for Mid Ulster, who had already declared her intention of standing aside, signed Mr Sands's nomination papers.

There was a feeling in some quarters of the SDLP last night that it had been neatly outmanoeuvred by the more extreme element of the nationalist republican camp.

Mr Maguire said: "I have been told that the only way of saving the life of Bobby Sands is by letting Sands go forward in the election. I just cannot have on my own hands the life of another man. I am calling on my supporters to throw their weight behind Bobby Sands."

He denied that he had been coerced by Provisional Sinn Fein or others to withdraw.

There is a nationalist majority of about 6,000 over the unionists in Fermanagh and South Tyrone, whose electorate of 71,481 turned out in a remarkable 88.9 per cent poll in May, 1979, and elected Mr Maguire with a majority of nearly 5,000 over the Official Unionist runner-up.

He was elected as an independent, but was a staunch republican who, like his brother, supported the Maze hunger strike.

All that could stop Mr Sands being elected would be the abstention of many nationalist supporters who might be reluctant to vote for a man described as the leader of the IRA prisoners at the Maze, or for somebody who has already declared that if elected he intends immediately to resign.

A second by-election would clearly have to come after the local elections in May, and a larger field would then stand. But Provisional Sinn Fein, which is backing Mr Sands, says it would not fight a second time.

Mr West, former leader of the Official Unionists, claims most support in co Tyrone, but in Fermanagh, which has only one town of any size, he does not command widespread support.

General election: M. F. Maguire (Ind) 22,398; R. Ferguson (Off UU) 17,411; A. Currie (SDLP) 10,785; E. Baird (UUUP) 10,607; P. Acheson (Alliance) 1,070. Ind majority: 4,987.

'Panorama' claim over Dublin summit

Mrs Margaret Thatcher and Mr Charles Haughey, Prime Minister of the Irish Republic, did discuss a new constitution for Northern Ireland at the Dublin summit last December, it was claimed last night.

The BBC television programme *Panorama* said the British Government does not want a united Ireland but a wider constitutional arrangement in which Dublin and Westminster would exercise a form of joint sovereignty

The first step would be the creation of an Anglo-Irish Council, with ministers and MBPs from Westminster and Dublin, the programme said.

The programme said the Government's strategy was to by-pass the Unionist veto by talking directly to Dublin.

Children from St Barnabas School, Pimlico, London, studying pictures yesterday before a National Gallery quiz.

Photograph by Keith Waldegrave

RPO dismisses general manager

By Martin Huckerby
Music Reporter

The Royal Philharmonic Orchestra has dismissed Mr Peter Diamand, its general manager, after a series of disagreements on the policy for running the self-governing orchestra. Mr Diamand aged 67, has been general manager since November 1978.

His dismissal, which takes immediate effect, came at an acrimonious meeting of the orchestra's board last Friday, buit it reflects differences between him and the remainder of the board which go back many months.

When he was first appointed, after 13 years as director of the Edinburgh Festival, many in the musical profession doubted whether his independent style of management would fit easily into a selfgoverning organization.

Matters have been made more difficult by the orchestra's financial difficulties; in January the Musicians' Union came to its aid with a loan of up to £50,000.

His departure is yet another example of the uneasy relations between London orchestral managers and players; the Royal Philharmonic has had seven different general managers in the past 15 years.

After seeing his solicitor yesterday, Mr Diamand said he could not make any statement yet, but he did observe that when he joined the Royal Philharmonic, he had been the most junior of the managers of the four independent London orchestras; when he left last week, he was the most senior—all the others had changed. Mr Diamand has not made any plans for the future,

National Theatre rejected £750,000 sponsorship

By Kenneth Gosling

A big commercial sponsor offered the National Theatre support totalling £750,000 but the offer was rejected because it wanted the theatre to distribute literature seeking custom from subscribers, Lord Rayne, chairman of the theatre's board said last night.

Giving evidence to the Commons Select Committee on Education, Science, and the Arts, he spoke of the risks in commercial sponsorship, particularly dependence on such money without having long-term security.

Lord Rayne told the committee, which is investigating public and private funding of the arts, that the theatre was recently offered £250,000 a year for three years.

He did not name the company but said that it was exploring alternative means of providing the same amount of commercial support without the same kind of commercial exploitation.

Avoid legal aid waste, justices' clerks told

By Marcel Berlins
Leal Correspondent

Lord Hailsham of St Marylebone, the Lord Chancellor, has issed a reminder to magistraes' courts to ensure that criminal legal aid gave value for money and was not granted unnecessarily.

In an administrative circular sent to all justices' clerks, Lord Hailshum canvasses a number of areas where, he feels, the system is wasteful.

It was essential to do everything possible to reduce the time spent by solicitors in court waiting for their cases to come up, he says. An analysis of the total cost of legal aid in the magistrates' courts, estimated at £40m this year, showed that about a fifth of the bill, £8m, was spent in paying for waiting time.

The Lord Chancellor urges closer cooperation in the listing of cases between solicitors and court officials.

Solicitors did not need to turn up at court every time their client was remanded, he goes on. Their attendance was unnecesary if the remand was formal.

Unnecessary duplication of work also gave rise to waste, he said. Applications by defendants to change their solicitors, or if there were more than one defendant, for separate legal representation, should be investigated carefully.

Applicants for legal aid were entitled to have doubts arising from their claims resolved in their favour, "but they are not entitled to the benefit of those doubts on the strength of vague applications" the circular says. If the ground claimed for needing legal aid is that conviction would result in the real possibility of a prison sentence (one of the criteria for granting aid) the applicant should specify the reasons why the jeopardy existed. It should not be enough merely to state the ground.

In general, Lord Hailsham says that "decisions on the grant of legal aid should be taken on the basis of an adequate knowledge of the facts, and the arrangements must be such that the courts are properly acquainted with the precise nature of the charges and the grounds of the application, if necessary by calling on the prosecution for information."

The Lord Chancellor emphasizes that he has not yet reached any conclusions on wider-ranging changes into the criminal legal aid system, which his department has been considering.

Union advises BL staff to ignore dismissal

From Clifford Webb
Birmingham

White collar unions at BL are planning a new confrontation with management tomorrow over compulsory redundancies at the group's Longbridge car plant.

They have advised staff employees whose redundancy notices expire tonight to present themselves for work as usual. If they are refused admission or ejected the unions have threatened to step up industrial action, which included a twoday strike by most of the 2,500 staff last week and a long running ban on overtime working.

Mr William Linthwaite, Longbridge chairman of the Association of Professional, Executive, Clerical and Computer Staff (Apex) said, "If BL attempts to throw workers off the plant we will all come out and stay out".

The issue could become a stalemate however if, as seemed likely last night, management avoids a confrontation by allowing the redundant men to enter the factory and sit doing nothing. The hope would be that they would soon tire of reporting for work and not getting paid.

Shop stewards said feelings were running very high among staff and it was possible that selective strikes would begin today as a warning.

BL said that 102 compulsory redundancy notices were issued last Tuesday to become effective tonight. Men were told they could leave sooner if they wanted and about half that number had gone.

"Management has no intention of reversing its decision", the company said. "Similar redundancies have been accepted without trouble at other plants in BL Cars".

By tomorrow BL will have completed the 4,250 staff redundancies originally sought. It is understood that only 500 were compulsory.

Rastafarian 'died from negligence of authorities'

By a Staff Reporter

An independent committee of inquiry set up into the death of Richard Campbell, aged 19, a black Rastafarian, in Ashford Remand Centre last year has decided that he died from the negligence of the authorities.

The report of the inquiry, convened by Battersea and Wandsworth Trades Council, is to be presented to Lord Belstead, Under Secretary of State at the Home Office, today. It rejects the coroner's verdict

17,000,000 meals on wheels served in a year

The Women's Royal Voluntary Service last year supplied 17,000,000 meals on wheels to homes and luncheon clubs as part of its expanding service to the deprived, eledrly and handicapped.

The group also issued nearly 1,500,000 items of clothing to 234,000 people.

The annual report announced that the new chairman, after the resignation of Lady Pike, would be Mrs Barbara Shenfield, vice-chairman since 1975.

Dinghy couple criticized

A couple's failure to take elementary precautions before sailing out into the Atlantic in a rubber dinghy led to a tragedy in which one of them drowned, a sheriff ruled yesterday.

Giving his verdict at Oban Sheriff Court after a fatal accident inquiry into the death of Mrs Margaretta Zehnder, of Stuttgart, West Germany, Sheriff Donald McDiarmid said: Zehnders appeared to be oblivious to the fact that their intentions, they sailing out into the open

"They were not wearing waterproof clothing nor carrying life jackets o distress flares. It is almost unbelievable that two responsible adults did not consider any of these elementary precautions necessary."

Mrs Zehnder's body was found near the island of Coll a day after she and her husband, Robert, left the island of Mull to said around Iona.

"Mr Zehnder said his wife was at the rudder when the boat overturned in the wind", the sheriff said. Police examined the dinghy later and found the pin securing the mast has snapped

Labour MP demands inquiry into 1968 'coup' meeting

By Michael Hatfield
Political Reporter

The Prime Minister was asked yesterday to set up an investigation into allegations that there was a plan to overthrow the Government in 1968 when Sir Harold Wilson was Prime Minister.

Mr Edward Leadbitter, Labour MP for Hartlepool, wrote to Mrs Margaret Thatcher stating that alleged discussions involving the late Lord Mountbatten of Burma, Mr Hugh Cudlipp (now Lord Cudlipp), Mr Cecil King, and Sir Solly Zuckerman (now Lord Zuckerman) suggesting the subversion of a democratically elected Government "in the view of many represents an act of treachery".

He stated that while Mrs Thatcher was not responsible for what was reported in the press "it is quite clear from the statements made by Sir Harold Wilson and others that there must be now some action to get at the facts".

"Either an attempt to plan the overthrow of a Government existed or it did not. The nation must know if it is one or the other".

Giving evidence to the Security Commission was not enough, Mr Leadbitter said. "I believe the nation has now had enough of cover-ups in high places. Serious offences have been committed without punishment for a selected few who seem to consider themselves above the law.

"Some appear to have made money out of it. Indeed, some involved in the subversion talks may still be in high office. A specific investigation is needed

Cudlipp denial: The claim that Lord Mountbatten was involved in discussions about a possible coup against the Wilson Government was strongly denied yesterday by Lord Cudlipp, former head of the IPC newspaper group and one of those present at the alleged discussions (David Nicholson-Lord writes).

In his first statement on the allegations made in *The Sunday Times*, Lord Cudlipp said there was no mention at the May, 1968, meeting of a military coup although Lord Mountbatten was hoping at that time for a "massive resurgence of the British spirit".

Neither he nor Mr Cecil King, his predecessor as head of IPC, for whom Lord Cudlipp had arranged the meeting with Lord Mountbatten, had heard anything of a military plot. To connect Lord Mountbatten's name to it was "infamous".

Lord Cudlipp's version, which broadly reiterates the account given in his autobiography in 1976, has been supported by Lord Zuckerman, former chief scientific adviser to the Government, and also by Mr Richard Hough, Lord Mountbatten's biographer.

It is at odds, however, with the claim by Mr King that Lord Mountbatten instigated the meeting.

Letter, page 17

Christie's sale will aid craft centre a nd ca Mexican jungle tower with equestrian aviary

Millionaire Surrealist wh put Salvador Dali on contract

By Geraldine Norman
Sale Room Correspondent

"I bought most of the paintings off the artists' easels as they painted them, either in my houses or theirs," Edward James said yesterday of the superb Dalis and Magrittes he put up for sale at Christie's. "I should think I paid around £100 a time.

"Then I put Dali on contract for a year," he added, brightening up. "I paid him $1,000 a month to paint less pictures. He was painting quick sloshy pot boilers for the money. We had an understanding that he was only to paint two pictures a month while on contract."

Mr James, a millionaire at the age of five, was the patron and friend of the great Surrealist painters at the height of the movement in the 1920s and 1930s. He was Edward VII's godson; he is credited with being either the king's son or grandson on the wrong side of the blanket.

While his friends painted Surrealist pictures he lived, and continued to do so, by the Surrealist credo. He lent his home in Wimpole Street sucsively to Dali and Magritte before t war. The fine eighteenth century furshings were enhanced by four hanomely carved Louis XV mirrors; at thebrow of a light switch four Magritte ptings appeared behind the mirrors.

On his parent's 6,000-acre etie at West Dean in Sussex he convted a small Lutyens house into a Srealist dream with palm tree pillars,lraped chimney stacks and a repruction Grinling Gibbons ceiling to wch he added "a few gold and silver pheasants".

Next he migrated to Califnia in search of Buddhism, becoming close friend of Aldous Huxley andelping to found a monastery. Disehanted with American mystics, he med off about 25 years ago to build Srealist palaces in the heart of the lexican Jungle. His extraordinary conlex of coffee groves, towers, aviars and temples is still his home andonsuming interest.

The first slice of the proeds of yesterday's sale is to go to the Edward James Foundation, a charitable trust to which he gave his West Dean estate and his British possessions in 1964.

Any excess profits will be devoted to his Mexican projects, in particular to completing two partially built towers. One has four stories but seven are intended. On top of the tower will stand a pyramid and on top of the pyramid a vast fibre-glass horse modelled on Leonardo's equestrian statue in Milan that was destroyed by the French during the Napoleonic wars.

But it will be more than a horse. It is to contain an aviary and it will be lit up at night to reveal the exotic birds flying around.

The Mexican estate is bequeathed to his four adopted children, a boy and three girls, the children of local Mexican Indians whom he adopted from birth. The eldest is 23.

The James Foundation in Britain has first call on the proceeds of the sale because of his ambitions for it as a craft centre. He admits to anxiety over its present short craft courses: "It is always packed, but you cannot learn anything in two weeks".

He wants to run two-year courses during which craftsmen can learn a difficult skill. He is particularly interested in wood carving and stone carving: he wants to form "people good enough to restore cathedrals".

He hopes to develop West Dean's tapestry workshop, which has woven a fine series of tapestries after drawings by Henry Moore. Interpreting William Blake's "Illustrations to the Book of Job" in tapestry is a project that brings a gleam of excitement to his eyes.

What started this extraordinary man on a lifetime of patronage of the arts? "I started by asking myself: what do the Rockefellers do?" They appeared to have comfortably taken care of medical and scientific research. So he plumped for art and conservation. "I have a passion for trees", he says. "I planted my first forest at 14." Now he is conserving the Mexican jungle.

Meaningful English: An ongoing scenario

By David Nicholson-Lord

Bernard Levin, Salford council and the 1981 census emerged yesterday as the latest targets of those campaigning to cleanse the English language of euphemism, gobbledygook and circumlocution.

That was disclosed when the Plain English Campaign and the National Consumer Council launched a training manual designed to promote less cluttered official English. The manual costs £15 and is aimed at all organizations that attempt, and usually fail, to communicate with the public.

Those include, it appears, the Department of the Environment, the Civil Service and the Customs and Excise—the first three arms of Government to have ordered the manual. The Civil Service staff college is also said to believe the manual could benefit administrative trainees, the service's elite to be.

Some of the fiercest criticisms yesterday were reserved for the census and the army of enumerators charged with conducting it. The Plain English Campaign says the census form suffers from over-complex layout and writing, a distinctly intimidating tone and a somewhat dehumanized terminology.

Mr Martin Cutts, one of the campaign's founders, listed his charges at a press conference. There were "hundreds and hundreds" of questions instead of the 16 claimed, he said. The form described people as "persons". Some of the requests, such as that involving a respondent's whereabouts on the night of 5-6 April, 1981, savours of a police inquiry.

Mr Cutts also quarrelled with the designation "enumerator". He had to look up the word in the dictionary when he first heard it, he said.

"They have had about 10 years since the last census to think about something less awkward", Mr Cutss said. "If I had had the same, I am sure I would have come up with something better." He suggested "census collector".

He went on to describe the worst pockets of resistance to the spread of pellucid English. Those were chiefly insurance companies and councils, notably that in Salford, which recently drew only 12 people to a public meeting at the Great Cheetham Street Local District Consultation Plan. So abstruse was that document that the overwhelming response from those few present was to ask what it meant.

He conceded, however, that the council suffered from having the Salford Form Factory, headquarters of the campaign, on its doorstep. "We collect so many hundeds of examples of their apalling forms. They probably fel a bit browned off with us."

As for the third taret, Mr Levin's name was proposed by an unidentified, perhaps envious, fellow journalist. But the Plain English Campaign did not noticeably demur.

Faster BR services to Europe

By Michael Baily
Transport Correspondent

British Rail yesterday announced faster passenger services to Paris, Brussels, and other European centres.

Under the name Inter-City Europe, new ship and train schedules are being introduced this week to cut nearly four hours off travelling times to some northern European cities, accompanied in some cases by fare reductions of up to a fifth.

The London-Paris service is being cut this week from about six hours to 5hr 40min by introducing refurbished trains from London to Dover, and new 100 mph turbotrains from Boulogne to Paris. The big Seaspeed hovercraft will link the two with 40-minute Channel crossings.

There will be a faster link to Brussels in May, with Boeing Jetfoils cutting the Dover-Ostend crossing from 3hr 30min to 1hr 40min and the London-Brussels timing from eight hours to 5hr 30min.

On the same route, express-train time to Cologne will fall from 11hr 45min to 8hr 15min, and to Amsterdam from 10hr 30min to 8hr.

As Continental railways adopt BR's policy of market pricing instead of charging by the kilometre, fares on many routes are being held steady or reduced.

Half-price rail travel will be available to holders of senior citizen railcards in France, Belgium, the Netherlands, Spain, Portugal, and Luxembourg, with 30 per cent off in Germany. Italy is expected to come into line soon.

The London-Amsterdam, second-class fare, will fall from £23 to £18, for example, while the London-Brussels fare stays at £21 and the London-Paris fare will be £25, compared with standard tourist air fares approaching £50.

The services are expected to increase growth in the United Kingdom-Europe rail market, at present serving about four million people, from about 5 to 8 per cent a year.

Nurses ban visits at Rampton

By Lucy Hodges

The 600 nurses at Rampton high-security hospital in Nottinghamshire are taking industrial action after the conviction of a nurse who was found guilty of breaking a patient's jaw.

That means that the 800 patients are confined to their wards and that friends and relations who travelled to Rampton over the weekend were not able to visit patients.

MIND, the mental health charity, said it bode ill for the reforms called for by Sir John Boynton in his critical report of the hospital last year, and which have been accepted by the Government.

The work-to-rule by the Prison Officers Association, which represents the nurses, stems from a meeting of the association on Friday. It is understood the nurses feel strongly that they are not protected by the law after the conviction of Mr Gerald Bowskill last week.

Mr Bowskill was found guilty by Leicester Crown Court of grievous bodily harm to a patient by punching him and breaking his jaw. He was sentenced to nine months imprisonment, suspended for a year.

That is the first case to have been decided in a series of brutality allegations against nurses as a result of a Yorkshire Television programme that listed 800 instances of alleged ill-treatment of patients. Three more nurses face charges and a further 35 cases are being considered by the Director of Public Prosecutions.

The work-to-rule consists of a refusal to escort patients anywhere or accept new admissions as well as a ban on patient movement.

Because visiting takes place in the recreation room and involves patients leaving the wards, that too has been banned. About 40 friends and relations turned up at Rampton on Saturday to be hold they would not be able to see patients.

The management met the association yesterday. Mr Derek Atha, the hospital administrator, said he hoped the action would not be prolonged.

In brief

Two killed in coach crash

Two passengers were killed and 23 injured when a coach carrying sleeping homeward-bound holidaymakers overturned near Cambridge early yesterday.

No other vehicle was involved. The coach was bound for Doncaster, South Yorkshire, with 50 passengers. The dead were Mrs Sarah Haith, 58, of Evelyn Avenue, Intake, Doncaster, and Teresa Garratt, of of Scot Avenue, Conisborough.

Cattle bar eased

Restrictions to prevent the spread of foot-and-mouth disease have been partially lifted in Jersey, allowing farmers to graze their cattle in fields for the first time in 12 days. Since the disease was confirmed on March 19 there have been no further outbreaks.
END

Opera bells found

Three bells, which were stolen from the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden earlier this month, have been discovered at the Whitechapel Bell Foundry, east London. The bells were cast specially to fit in with the music of particular operas.

Actor remanded

Lewis Collins, the actor who plays Bodie in the television series *The Professionals*, was remanded on bail until May 11 by Hendon magistrates accused of discharging a firearm with intent to endanger life at his home in Park Avenue, Golders Green, north London.

Musical postponed

The opening night of *Cats* the new Andrew Lloyd Webber musical, has been postponed from April 30 until May 11 because Judi Dench, the actress, is in hospital after an operation on a tendon torn during rehearsal.

Siege awards move

Two police marksmen are being recommended for bravery awards for their action at the Gail Kinchin siege in Birmingham. They are Det Sergeant Thomas Sartain and Det Constable Gerald Richards.

Roman museum

A Roman Army museum, converted from a derelict farm standing alongside Carboras Fort, near Greenhead, Northumberland, opens tomorrow.

Tunnel to reopen

Rotherhithe tunnel, London, which has been closed for six months for repairs costing £2m is to reopen on Thursday. About 17,000 drivers used the tunnel each day before the closure.

New York deale pays record price for a living artist's work

By Our Sale Room Correspondent

A painting by Salvador Dali became the most expensive work by a living artist sold at auction when it fetched £360,000 at Christie's last night. "Le Sommeil" was painted in 1937.

The buyer was Alexander Iolas, a dealer of Greek origin with galleries in New York and Paris, who has supported the Surrealist movement for a long time. The under-bidder who ran him up to the unlooked-for price was Leslie Waddington, a London dealer, who was bouncing around on his seat with an agonized look on his face. Christie's had been suggesting a price of about £150,000.

"Le Sommeil" was the star work among 28 paintings from the collection of Edward James, the millionaire, aged 73, who was a close friend and patron of the Surrealists in the 1930s. Christie's suggestion that the group of paintings was worth £1m was proved more than conservative; they brought £1,737,700.

Mr James, although in London, did not attend the sale. "It is too dangerous. I might start bidding", he said beforehand. Christie's, however, was packed with millionaires and their representatives, sweating from fear at risking so much money on mere works of art and from the heat of the television lights. Two extra rooms had to be linked with the main auction room by telephone. The biggest buyers were Iolas, who secured six lots, and an unnamed private collector bidding through one of Christie's staff, who secured five.

Dali had been lent Mr James's Wimpole Street home in the 1930s and painted a superb group of small luminous paintings that his patron secreted behind the panelling of his dining room. At a touch of a button the panelling slid back and the patings were lit up. Most expenve among those tiny paintis was the "Solitude paranaque-critique" (7½in x 9in), flower-covered ruin of a car mong a group of ruined arche: It sold for £145,000 (estinte £70,000 to £90,000) to an anoymous Swiss buyer. The cheapst was a group of mounted wrriors arranged in a pattern rming a woman's face: "Têtede femme ayant la forme d'unebataille" (4in x 5in). It went o a private collector at £25,00 (estimate £20,000 to £30,00).

Th second highest price of the sle was £170,000 (estimate £100,00 to £140,000) paid by Wadangton for Dali's "Banlieue de la ville paranoiaque-critique". It is an architectural fantay with his wife, Gala, holdig a bunch of grapes in the fregound and dates from 1936.

Seeral works by Magritte werealso offered: a door with a coud coming through it provd the most popular at £43,00 (estimate £16,000 to £20,00).

Tle mixed property sale that followed the James collection proved in its way to be an even mor surprising success. Pictures of mixed quality made a tota of £3,234,100, with only 10 per cent unsold.

Two private collectors fought a determined battle for possession of the star work, Renoir's "Baigneuse debout", running the price to £820,000. It depicts a pretty naked girl and dates from 1896, not a period of Renoir generally considered his most outstanding. The price sets a new auction record for artist's work.

A brightly coloured boating scene by Maurice de Vlaminck also brought an auction record for the artist at £140,000 (estimate £70,000 to £90,000). Entitled "Les barques", it was painted in 1907,

Other sale room news, page 18

A detail of Renoir's "Baigneuse debout", which made £820,000 at Christie's last night, a record for the artist.

Sex activities alleged at children's centre

Teenage boys and girls were allowed to share bedrooms at a Liverpool assessment centre it was alleged yesterday. A boy, aged five, saw two older children having sex and a girl, aged 13, was sexually assaulted by a boy, aged 14, it was said.

Council officials investigating the charges are to interview staff and children at the New Heys assessment centre in Allerton Road, which houses 25 boys and girls from broken homes.

The allegations were made in a report by Councillor Bob Gregory, an area organizer for the National Union of Public Employees, who said three of his members made the revelations.

£5,000 fine for 'Guardian' in contempt case

The Guardian newspaper was fined £5,000 for contempt of court yesterday over an article which led to a freud trial at the Central Criminal Court being abandoned after 127 days.

The newspaper's sincere regret and apology for what it said was an honest mistake were accepted by the High Court. But Lord Lane, the Lord Chief Justice, said: "The fact is that thousands of pounds in costs were thrown away by this stupid action and by this stupid failure to take precautions which were perfectly simple to take."

The article had disclosed that two men on trial had previously been concerned in an escape from custody. That information had been kept from the jury.

Mr Simon Brown, QC, for the Attorney-General, said the article, published in March 1979, brought a long and expensive trial to an abrupt and abortive end after 127 court days.

It had concerned five men accused of fraud on a gigantic scale. The indictment referred to hundreds of billions rather than mere millions of dollars. Four of the accused were acquitted at a later retrial.

The article, written by Mr Alec Hartley, related to the capture by FBI agents in New York of an Italian who had escaped from detention in London with two other Italians. All three were among those accused.

Mr John Mathew, QC, for the defence, said it was never suggested that any of those concerned with the article had any intention of prejudicing the trial.

Provincial paper fined, page 9

Complaint by Lady Lucan upheld

An article about Lady Lucan in *Woman's Own* was intended to give the false impression that it was an interview, the Press Council has ruled. In the circumstances in which the talks took place that was disgraceful, the council decided.

It said the magazine failed to resist the temptation to use material obtained during exploratory talks with Lady Lucan about a commercial arrangement which was never made.

The council upheld two complaints about the article—that it gave the false impression it was based on a contemporary interview and that it intruded into her and her children's privacy, and quoted one child without her consent.

The council rejected a further complaint by Lady Lucan that the editor failed to correct inaccuracies.

Negotiations about a possible article had begun between Lady Lucan and *Woman's Own* representatives, including Miss Jane Butterworth, but Lady Lucan eventually said she would rather leave the project for the time being.

A cover-page announcement, "LADY LUCAN/Why she hides from the world", then introduced a report by Miss Butterworth on how Lady Lucan was managing to survive the anguish of a murder, debts, scandal, and police inquiries.

When Lady Lucan complained the new editor, Miss Iris Burton, explained to her that when she declined to give an exclusive life story the acting editor asked Miss Butterworth to base a feature on her own journalistic impressions and published material. Miss Burton hoped the article updated Lady Lucan's history and in its own way wished her well.

Outlining Miss Butterworth's meetings with Lady Lucan, Miss Burton said the published article contained nothing particularly original and was not described as an interview, although *Woman's Own* tried to make it appear as contemporary as possible.

At an oral inquiry Miss Burton said they were justified in presenting an updated feature adding colour to material already available without direct quotes. The one direct quote was innocent and not a breach of confidence.

Asked whether Lady Lucan's quoted remarks did not give the impression of an interview, the editor said some elements of the article were to give the impression of meetings but not of an interview with many quotes.

Extracts from the Press Council's adjudication, are:

There is no doubt that Lady Lucan gave Woman's Own no interview for publication.

She met the writer of the article, Miss Jane Butterworth on October 31, 1979, to discuss the possibility of making a contract to give an interview to the magazine in return for a fee. They met again on November 7, when Miss Butterworth correctly formed the view that Lady Lucan was ill, and finally on November 20, when she seemed more composed. All three meetings took place in a period when the matter being explored was whether Lady Lucan was prepared to give an exclusive interview for which she would have been paid. She decided not to do so and made this clear in a letter to Miss Butterworth on January 18, 1980.

During their meetings Miss Butterworth gleaned information and impressions on which, together with unchecked material about Lady Lucan from newspaper cuttings, she constructed her article, which appeared in Woman's Own dated April 5, 1980.

In the Press Council's view the article did give the impression of reporting an interview with Lady Lucan in her home and was intended to give that impression.

The council finds that the article did intrude into Lady Lucan's personal privacy, particularly in its quotation from one of her children who was then nine years old and in its references to matters concerning other members of her family.

Lady Lucan was not someone who had retreated into a secluded private life, but had from time to time released information about herself to newspapers for a fee. In the Press Council's view she did not on that account sacrifice the right to privacy.

Her complaints against Woman's Own that the article gave a false impression of being a contemporary interview, intruded into her privacy and that of her children and was tendentious are upheld.

Fear of farce over 'parasitic' cost of Welsh television

Regional report

Tim Jones
Cardiff

The Welsh-language fourth television channel issue has already frightened the Government because of the nationalistic and linguistic passion it has unleashed. Faced with a hunger strike and civil disobedience, the Government in its first demonstrable U-turn conceded the single channel solution after admitting it had failed to carry the middle ground of opinion. It went further and stated bluntly that the fear of violence had made it drop its own plans for the programmes to be carried on two channels.

That surrender brought peace to the Principality. But now the Government is faced with a new controversy for 14 of the 15 independent television companies have made it clear that they are extremely unhappy about funding the new service.

In written evidence to the Parliamentary Select Committee on Welsh Affairs the companies complain that financing the service will be "an unacceptable further burden on an industry which will be fighting off substantial losses in the near future".

According to Sir Denis Forman, join managing director of Granada, the estimated £15m cost of providing the minority service in Wales could threaten the whole fourth channel project.

Sir Denis and his colleagues cannot see the new service in Wales ever being profitable, and contend that it should therefore be treated as a social service paid for by the Government.

Mr William Whitelaw, the Home Secretary, who has ultimate responsibility in the matter, is unimpressed by the companies' projections of poverty and has stated quite bluntly that they have a statutory obligation to pay for the Welsh service.

It is important in the debate to remember that the channel decision was not universally welcomed in Wales. In its evidence, the Language Freedom Movement claims that its very existence will be a symbol of separatism.

The movement adds that costs should not be allowed to rise to the extent where the service becomes so parasitic on English language channels as to enforce a lowering of their quality.

Mr Leo Abse, MP, chairman of the select committee, is aware of the dangers. Six months ago when he addressed the first public session of the inquiry, he stated fears which are still relevant.

He said: "We are bound to ask whether the present intention of the Welsh language fourth channel to commence its operation simultaneously with the general fourth channel will mean that still more viewers in Wales will turn their aerials

"If it is correct that already 67 per cent in north-east and south-east Wales have erected aerials which point away from Wales and if it is correct that 200,000 households are on cable because otherwise they cannot receive transmissions from England, who among English-speaking Welshmen will be looking at HTV Wales and BBC Wales?

"Are we embarking on an exercise at huge cost which may give Wales an extended and needed Welsh-speaking programme but leaves BBC Wales and HTV Wales stranded talking to themselves. This would mean after all the tumult and passion the controversy would end in sheer farce, and indeed an expensive farce."

Surrey robberies rose by 24% last year

Robberies in Surrey rose by 24 per cent in 1980, Sir Peter Matthews, the chief constable, said in his annual report published yesterday. He described it as a "*mean and vicious age*". However there was a glimmer of hope in the increase in detection of robberies from 35 per cent to 40 per cent, he said.

There were four murders, 77 robberies, the highest recorded in the country, and 904 serious assaults during the year.

The special crime patrol arrested 267 people for burglary and other serious offences in 1980.

Professional criminals travelling from London and neighbouring areas were responsible for much of the county's serious crime. Of the people arrested, 85 per cent were from London.

"It became clear that professional criminals were far more inclined to use violence

Sir Peter gave a warning that financial restraints would make law enforcement more difficult in future.

Suspect did not name source, court is told

From Richard Ford
Middlesbrough

A man suspected of burglary told a detective inspector during questioning that he had been tipped off by someone in the Metropolitan Police to say nothing as there was no evidence against him Teesside Crown Court was told yesterday.

Mr Michael Perry, the suspect, was then questioned for 90 minutes over his allegation but did not name the policeman who had told him.

Det Inspector William James of Nuneaton, Warwickshire, was giving evidence at the trial of former Det Sergeant John Symonds, aged 45, of the Metropolitan Police, who denies accepting £150 from Mr Perry in 1969 in payment for helping him over an arrest.

Mr James said he arrested Mr Perry in London in connexion with a burglary in Nuneaton. Mr Symonds, he said, asked to see the prisoner alone.

Mr Perry was freed after he allegedly told Mr James that a police officer in London had told him nothing could be proved, the court heard.

The case continues today.

MPs told why hospital beds are empty

By Nicholas Timmins

About a thousand beds in new hospitals that health authorities cannot afford to run might still be empty in a year's time, the Commons public accounts committee heard yesterday.

In one case some of the beds might remain empty until 1985.

The information was given by Sir Patrick Nairne, permanent secretary at the Department of Health and Social Security, who was giving evidence to the committee.

A recent report from the Comptroller and Auditor General showed that about 1,900 beds in 12 new hospitals in England and Wales, some of which were due to have opened in 1977 and 1978, have had to remain unused. Some of those are now in use.

Sir Patrick said that in the case of University Hospital, Nottingham, where 1,000 beds were due to come into use from 1979 onwards, the health authority had decided to bring into use 250 a year over a four-year period That meant the new hospital would not be used fully until about 1985.

At the new Ealing District Hospital, West London, 46 out of 406 beds have still not had a date fixed for them to be used, and the same applies to 41 beds out of 398 at Kettering General Hospital, Northamptonshire.

At the Derriford District General Hospital, near Plymouth, 319 beds will start being used this year, but the full 347 will not be used until 1982 or 1983, while no date has been fixed to use 51 beds at Whitney Hospital, Oxford, which was due to open in 1979

Sir Patrick rejected a suggestion from Mr Michael Morris, Conservative MP for Northampton, South, that the health service had failed the nation by leaving beds empty.

Sir Patrick said there had been a marked change in revenue expectations since the time the hospitals were planned. Revenue growth had fallen from 3.75 per cent in 1973-74 to an average of 1.9 per cent in 1979-80.

Moonies' case verdict is expected on 100th day

By Frances Gibb

After six months of evidence from more than 100 witnesses, the jury in the libel action *involving* the Unification Church (or Moonies) and Associated Newspapers at the High Court retired yesterday to consider its verdict.

The jury deliberated for an hour before retiring to an hotel for the night, and is expected to deliver a verdict today, the 100th working day of the trial.

Mr Dennis Orme, aged 42, the leader in Britain of the Moonies, is claiming damages over a *Daily Mail* article in May, 1978, alleging that the Unification Church brainwashed converts and broke up families. Libel is denied.

Total costs in the case, which is being seen as a test for further libel actions pending against other newspapers, including *The Times*, are estimated to exceed £500,000.

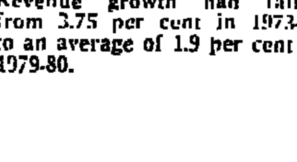
Mr Justice Comyn, summing up for the third day yesterday, told the jury that it had three choices when it came to assessing Mr Orme.

"You can find him to be a decent, straight, honest, upright, truthful, accurate man: a man who has suffered for years from the slings and arrows of outrageous media: a man who had literally always come up smiling."

Alternatively the jury could find him to be "a thoroughly deluded man, basically honest but deluded into taking up a nonsense, a so-called religion, the Unification Church"

"Or you can find Mr Orme to be involved in the self-confidence trick which the Unification Church had been practising, and is practising, in a big way", the judge said.

The jury could find him to have been a part of that confidence trick from the start or genuinely deluded from the start, and by now to have become a part of that confidence trick.



Race group accused of not using powers

By Lucy Hodges

Mr Alexander Lyon, Labour MP for York, said yesterday that the Commission for Racial Equality (CRE) had been given the biggest powers in the Western world to combat racial discrimination but had not used them.

He was questioning Mr David Lane, the commission's chairman, and five other senior CRE officers at the opening session of the inquiry by a Commons subcommittee into the commission's operation and effectiveness.

The CRE, which was closely questioned, was accused of not paying enough attention to its law enforcement role. "What have you done with these powers?" Mr Lyon asked: "Out of 224 staff you have 53 in the equal opportunities division, of whom only four are legally trained.

"In four years you have announced 45 strategic reviews out of which you have completed 10 and those are the least important ones."

Mr Lyon said it would have an immense effect on race relations if the CRE could produce an important document showing that British Leyland or Massey Ferguson was discriminating in relation to language testing. It would also have a ripple effect.

The commission is formally investigating both companies for alleged racial discrimination in recruitment. It has also issued a non-discrimination notice against British Leyland.

Mr Lane totally rejected the criticisms. He said the commission had done useful law enforcement work but the CRE's promotional role, persuading local authorities and employers to pursue certain policies, was a vital supplement.




'We gave you the biggest powers in the Western world in relation to law enforcement. What have you done with them? Out of 224 staff you have only four who are legally trained.'

Mr Alexander Lyon



'It looks as if the CRE is a soft touch for any karate club whose members are black or coloured. How can you justify acting as a kind of coloured Sports Council?'

Mr George Gardiner



'We cannot transform the race relations scene on our own. The rate of progress will depend not only on our effectiveness but on the vigorous involvement of others, particularly government.'

Mr David Lane

GRANT-AID DISBURSED BY THE CRE

The following project-aid grants were approved by the commission in 1980:

	£
Burdett Toy Library—Multi-Racial Home Project	600
Black Theatre Cooperative—Mama Dragon	500
Dominican Joy Spreaders—Cultural Club	500
Ebony Steel Band—London W2 Notting Hill Carnival (80/81)	1,000
Housewives in Dialogue—London	950
Islington Under Two Working Party of the Islington Under-Fives Group	600
Progressive Writers Association, Southall	2,300
Polish Folk Dance Group—Slough	1,250
Rastafarian Advancement Society—Football Team	300
—Film Club	300
Union of Muslim Organisations in UK and Eire—salary	7,699
World Punjabi Conference	2,300

CRE's Investigations

1. Pembroke and Pembroke employment agency
2. London Borough of Hackney's housing
3. National Bus Company
4. Amari Plastics
5. Smith and Nephew Associated Companies
6. Unigate
7. Berkshire's education policy
8. *Second Collingwood Housing Association*
9. Slough local authority
10. Chubb and Sons
11. USMC International
12. Prestige Group
13. *Massey Ferguson Perkins*
14. BL Cars
15. Percy Ingle Bakeries
16. Zone Insurance Co
17. Allocation of public housing with reference to work permit holders
18. Hillingdon local authority housing
19. Phillips Electronic and Associated Industries
20. Bondina and National Union of Dyers, Bleachers and Textile Workers
21. Dunlop polymer engineering division
22. Birmingham area health authority
23. Mortgage allocation in Rochdale
24. Rank Leisure Services
25. Birmingham education authority
26. Brook Street Bureau
27. Taxis in Birmingham
28. West Yorkshire passenger transport executive
29. Walsall local authority housing
30. Tottenham trades and social club
31. Westminster city council and NUPE dustmen
32. Brymboy community council for treatment of gypsies
33. Home Office, immigration service
34. *To be announced.*

"In our judgment and in the judgment of the commissioners, we would be very irresponsible indeed if we neglected the changes we would bring about in our promotional work".

Mr Lane quoted the results, just collected, of an Opinion Research Centre survey which found that 61 per cent of people had heard of the CRE, of whom 40 per cent said it was doing a good job. Of the 61 per cent, 38 per cent did not know what they thought and 22 per cent said it was not doing a good job.

Mr George Gardiner, Conservative MP for Reigate, was unhappy about the way the commission made public pronouncements about the Bristol riot last year and the nationality Bill.

He also complained about some of the projects which the CRE funded. "What benefit to race relations is £600 to the Burdett Toy Library?" he asked. Mr Gardiner questioned £500 to the Dominican Joy Spreaders Cultural Club and £950 to Housewives in Dialogue.

"It looks as if the CRE is a soft touch for any karate club or theatre group whose members are black or coloured. How can you justify acting as a kind of coloured Sports Council?"

Mr Clifton Robinson, the commission's deputy chairman, said all the grants were carefully scrutinized.

Mr Lyon suggested that the commission should drop the £1m of its £7m budget it gave to such groups and put it to better use on law enforcement.

The Race Relations and Immigration Subcommittee, which is chaired by Mr John Wheeler, Conservative MP for City of Westminster, Paddington, will be visiting the CRE's offices next week and Mr Wheeler said it would like to look at some of the commission's files.

Mr Lane said the CRE could not transform race relations on its own and need the help particularly of central government.

New party 'unlikely to abolish the independent schools'

From Diana Geddes
Sheffield

The Social Democrats were unlikely to seek to abolish the independent schools, but might remove their charitable status an encourage their integration within the maintained sector, Mrs Shirley Williams said yesterday.

Addressing the annual conference in Sheffield of the Secondary Heads' Association, Mrs William said that she was in favour of abolition. "I have been driven back to this in despair", she said, but she knew that she was undeniably "the most wayout of the Gang of Four" on that point.

She thought that her colleagues would go along with the abolition of charitable status and the offer of integration within the maintained sector, but not with the abolition of all fee paying. "And I am willing to go back again and try", she added.

However, she deplored the highly socially segregated nature of British society. It was a tragedy that, outside the world of film and pop music, we simply did not know how to speak to one another. She believed that those divisions in society grew all too easily out of the segregation of pupils in independent and maintained schools.

She urged independent schools to do more to help bridge that gulf by, for example, setting up exchange visits under which a comprehensive school pupil would board at an independent school for one or two terms, and an independent school pupil would attend a comprehensive school and lodge with a family with a totally different background from his own.

The best of the independent schools were deeply worried about the growing alienation between themselves and maintained schools, and about the decline in resources in the state sector, she said. She believed that some independent schools would be willing to become sixth form colleges within a maintained system.

Mrs Williams went on to outline an embryonic education policy of the Social Democrats.

They were committed to the comprehensive reform of secondary schools, but had not decided what to do about those authorities which wanted to retain their grammar schools. She felt a wide variety of solutions might be possible, but in her opinion all would have to involve the abolition of selection.

Within a comprehensive system, however, parents should be given as wide a choice of different types of school as possible. They should, for example, be able to choose between schools of different denominations, whether single sex or mixed, and of different styles and disciplinary procedures, though she would ban all corporal punishment.

For 16 to 19 year olds, she favoured the establishment of tertiary colleges combining vocational and academic courses, and the phasing out of sixth forms.

Turning to examinations, she called for the replacement of all public examinations at 16, with a mixture of internal school examinations, continuous assessments, and pupil profiles.

She also called for a broadening of the A level curriculum so as to include at least two minority subjects as well as two majority subjects, so as to ensure a mix of science and arts for each pupil. For all non-A level pupils, she favoured a "foundation" year which would include up to two thirds broad vocational training.

It was "madness" for Britain to have so many unskilled school-leavers when almost all new job opportunities were for skilled youngsters. In Germany more than 90 per cent of youngsters went through a three-year training, compared with only 16 per cent getting any training in Britain.

On local government finance, Mrs Williams said that the Social Democrats wanted to replace the rating system with one based on local income tax.

Fitter on murder charge

Richard Andrew Barnes, aged 21, an office fitter, was accused yesterday of murdering Mrs Heather Anne Bridge.

Mr Barnes, of no fixed address, appeared before the Birmingham stipendary magistrate. He was remanded in custody until April 7. The body of Mrs Bridge, aged 39, of Melbourne Road, Watford, was found in the boot of a car outside a bookshop in Digbeth, Birmingham on Friday.

Mr Barnes was also charged with causing criminal damage to the bookshop, and with attempting to murder Mr Karamat Hussain, who was shot through the neck with a crossbow bolt in Small Heath.

Parents to be told about school choice

More information for parents choosing a school for their child is to be made available under regulations which the Department of Education and Science hopes to publish by Easter.

The regulations, now in draft form, will lay down the minimum level of information but local authorities and school governors will be free to add more.

Local authorities, teacher unions, parents and other interested groups have been invited to comment.

Local education authorities will have to publish general information about their policy and arrangements for primary and secondary education, as well as details of their admissions and appeals arrangements.

Detailed information about individual schools required to be published will include: the curriculum; subject choices; the way the school is organized; policy on discipline; the wearing of uniform; the main extra-curricular activities; policy on entry for public examinations; recent GCE O and A level and CSE results and pupil numbers.

Welsh pupils have high failure rate

From Tim Jones
Cardiff

Almost a quarter of the children in Wales leave school after 11 years of full-time education without a single qualification, according to Welsh Office figures.

Mid Glamorgan, where more than 100 of the schools were built at the turn of the century, has by far the worst record. In that county a third of the 37 per cent of boys who leave school with nothing do not even bother to sit examinations and 32 per cent of the girls failed to get a single pass.

In rural Powys the next worst county, the failure rate is 25.9 per cent for boys and 23.8 for girls. Dyfed, another rural county, has the best record with just over 18 per cent.

Yet even that does not compare favourably with the worst English region, the West Midlands, which has an average of 16 per cent of pupils registering failure. England's overall percentage is 12.7.

However, in Wales GCE and CSE examinations in the same subject coincide, preventing children from having two chances of gaining qualifications.

Of the brighter pupils 23.9 per cent in Wales get five GCE O level higher grades compared with 24.8 in England.

Mr Carlisle a disaster, student leader says

By Our Education Correspondent

Mr David Aaronovitch, president of the National Union of Students, last night called on Mr Mark Carlisle, Secretary of State for Education and Science, to resign for having allowed education to bear the "lion's share" of the Government's spending cuts.

Speaking at the opening of the union's national conference in Blackpool, he said: "Despite being an affable man, he is proving to be the biggest disaster that we have ever had at the helm of the department, spending hundreds of millions to transfer dons into early retirement, and presiding over the running down of large sections of the education system."

The union should seek actively to involve trade unions and other sections of the community in its campaign against the cuts in further and higher education, he told more than 1,000 delegates representing the union's 1,200,000 members.

Unless large sections of the people were won over to regarding post-school education as essential, the students' cause would suffer not just under the present government, but under any government, whatever its complexion.

"We cannot do it on our own. Just as we must support those trade unions fighting for jobs, we must urge them to take up the cause of education. We must build on our links with the TUC and with trade councils", he said.

The union would lauch a national campaign involving joint demonstrations, house-to-house leafleting, and market place stalls to explain its action. Where colleges sought to close departments, students should "go in and take them over", he said.



The American pilot and co-pilot of this Lockheed Jetstar were injured when the aircraft overshot the runway at Luton airport in dense fog on Sunday night. A Nigerian family of seven escaped unhurt.

Midland network of water pipelines 'will save £10m'

From Arthur Osman
Birmingham

The Severn-Trent Water Authority, the second largest of the 10 authorities in England and Wales, is expected to approve the construction of a network of pipelines to switch surpluses from one area to another in time of need and to make maximum use of the cheapest sources of water.

The authority said yesterday that £110m of work needed to be done to use resources more efficiently and to be more flexible. It would lead to savings of £10m during the next five years.

By interlinking rivers, existing resources and boreholes, several concepts laid down in the past were "unlikely to be needed in the foreseeable future". Among those were Severn-Trent's involvement with the Welsh Water Authority in the vast development to enlarge the Craig Goch reservoir in the Elan Valley.

It was envisaged that that scheme would have cost about £100m and the Thames and Wessex authorities had also expressed an interest in it at one stage.

Mr Brian Scarlett, chairman of the working party of the authority's water management committee, said that they would not be needing the water this century.

Other plans that had been discarded included a reservoir near Tewkesbury, Gloucestershire, a scheme combining borehole water in Nottinghamshire with the river Derwent, the transfer of greater quantities from Rutland Water and the possible use of water from the river Trent for drinking.

The main points of the new strategy were the Carsington reservoir, near Ashbourne, Derbyshire, which by 1985 would make an extra 50 million gallons a day available; the use of boreholes in north Shropshire to allow an additional 62 million gallons to be taken from the River Severn and a new pipeline between the West and the East Midlands to link the main sources of the Severn and Trent catchment areas.

The Shropshire plan is awaiting approval by Mr Michael Heseltine, Secretary of State for the Environment. About 72 boreholes would be constructed.

The "umbilical cord" pipeline between Coventry, Nuneaton and Leicester will be laid over the next four years at a cost of £10m and will carry 20 million gallons a day.

An interchange of water of various qualities would pay special attention to the requirements of brewing at Burton on Trent and the dyeing industry at Nottingham.

It was said the authority had a flexibility to blend waters. During the 18 months that the working party studied consumption in the region it fell because of the recession, and although demand had grown during the seven years that the water authorities had been in existence, the growth had been less rapid than envisaged.

Court told of £1m holiday caravan fraud

Finance companies were duped out of more than £1m over five years by a couple who borrowed cash to buy caravans for hiring to holidaymakers, Exeter Crown Court was told yesterday.

The companies would receive bogus invoices giving details of the caravans. But the caravans did not exist, Mr Julian Priest, QC, for the prosecution, said.

Patricia Hopkins, aged 33, of Paignton, Devon, and Cecil Evans, aged 51, of Ashprington, Devon, both denied a joint charge of conspiring to defraud finance companies.

Mr Priest said Mrs Hopkins was the wife of Mr Conway Hopkins, "with whom you are not concerned in any way". In partnership, they ran a business letting out caravans and holiday homes, trading as P & C Holiday Homes.

Mr Evans traded under the name of Evans Caravans, the firm through which the finance companies were told the caravans would be obtained.

Magistrate's resignation

Mr Albert Sykes has resigned from the magistrates' bench at Luton, Bedfordshire, wher police were making inquir yesterday about the Arn Shopping Centre, of whic Sykes is manager for To City Properties.

It is believed that ies may involve the building materials

هكذا من الأصل

هكذا في الأصل

21 executed by firing squads in Tehran

Tehran, March 30.—Twenty-one people were executed by firing squad in Tehran today, 16 of them in public, for smuggling, drug offences and brothel-keeping.

They had been found guilty by a revolutionary tribunal of being "the corrupt of the earth" and of "waging war on God". Tehran newspapers reported.

Among them were five women, exected in Qasr prison for drug-dealing and prostitution.

Six men, convicted of running disorderly houses, were shot in the south Tehran compound which once housed the city's legal brothels. These were closed, and the compound bulldozed, after the 1979 revolution.

The other men were executed in two groups of five in streets in southern and central Tehran.

Several hundred people have been put to death since the revolution, many of them after conviction by the former roving judge, Hojatoleslam Sadeq Khalkhali, but in recent months the rate of executions has declined considerably. It is believed to be at least a year since there has been a public execution on this scale in the capital.

In the town of Hamadan, 230 miles south-east of Tehran, a man and a woman were also executed by firing squad early Sunday. The official Pars news agency said they had been found in possession of over 9lb of heroin and morphine.

Peace mission: A high-ranking Islamic mission, seeking to end the war between Iran and Iraq, began negotiations with Iranian leaders today. But the state radio declared that the country would not reduce its peace demands.

The mission, formed by the Islamic Conference Organization (ICO), arrived in Tehran this morning and its leader, President Sekou Touré of Guinea, had talks soon afterwards with President Bani-Sadr.

The delegation includes the Presidents of Gambia, Bangladesh and Pakistan, the Turkish Prime Minister and the Palestine Liberation Organization leader, Mr Yassir Arafat.

President Bani-Sadr yesterday repeated Iran's three conditions for a ceasefire: simultaneous ceasefire and withdrawal of Iraqi troops from Iranian territory; investigation into responsibility for the aggression; and settlement of the displte on the basis of the 1975 Algiers agcement.

The Algiers accord fixed the disputed southern border between Iran and Iraq as the middle of the Shatt al-Arab waterway. Iraq is demanding full control of the Shatt.

Economic alarm: In a bleak review, President Bani-Sadr said Iran's economy is in acute recession with production falling and money supply increasing alarmingly. His statement said Iran's gross national product declined 9 per cent in 1978, 13 per cent in 1979 and not les than 10 per cent" last year.—Reuter.

US fails to persuade Japan over bigger defence role in Pacific

From Peter Hazelhurst
Tokyo, March 30

An attempt by the United States to persuade Japan to build up its armed forces and take a greater responsibility for the defence of the Pacific Ocean will be rejected by the Japanese Government, a senior official in the Foreign Ministry said today.

The official said that Mr Caspar Weinberger, the American Defence Secretary, had asked Japan last week to expand its anti-submarine network, and take on a greater responsibility not only for its own sea lanes, but also for a vast area of the north-west Pacific.

"The request was made when Mr Weinberger met Mr Masayoshi Ito, the Japanese Foreign Minister, in Washington last week, but it cannot be done." the official said. "Under the terms of our constitution, drawn up under the supervision of the American Occupation Forces, Japan's *self-defence* forces cannot operate outside Japan," the official said.

It is understood that Mr Ito informed the United States Government that Japan would attempt to defend 1,000 miles of the Pacific covering the country's immediate sea lanes, but it could not agree to defend the entire zone of the north-west Pacific.

The Japanese armed forces are committed to the defence of the country's sea lanes stretching 1,000 miles south from the ports of Tokyo, Yokohama, Osaka and Kobe.

The actual zone of Japanese responsibility for the Pacific as envisaged by Mr Weinberger extends beyond Japan's territorial waters 1,300 miles to the island of Guam.

Mr Ito is also said to have pointed out that if Japan did agree to take on the responsibility for anti-submarine patrols in the entire zone of the north-west Pacific, the Government would have to revise the country's highly controversial defence plans.

Mr Zenko Suzuki, the Prime Minister, has made it clear that his Cabinet will refuse to revise the defence plan or amend the country's constitution.

In an interview to be broadcast shortly before he travels to Washington to meet President Reagan in May, Mr Suzuki is reported to have said that Japan will improve the quality of its defence forces without violating or amending the constitution.

Prodded by American complaints that Japan is enjoying a free ride under the umbrella of its security treaty with Washington, Mr Suzuki said his Government would increase defence expenditure from 0.9 per cent of GNP to 1 per cent within four years.

But Western diplomats claim that the assurances are a mere sop.

An American diplomat said: "If Japan is going to raise its defence spending to a level of 1 per cent of its GNP within four years the Government will have to expand the defence budget by a minimum of 15 per cent annually for the next four years—and that will not happen.

The Duke of Edinburgh speaking at a World Wildlife Fund reception in Hongkong, with a giant panda portrayed in the background.

Heavy run on the Belgian franc after failure to agree on economic plan

From Peter Norman
Brussels, March 30

The Belgian franc came under intense pressure on currency markets today after the coalition Government of Mr Wilfried Martens failed to agree on radical measures to solve the country's mounting economic crisis.

The Prime Minister was conferring this evening with leaders of the four parties that make up the coalition after an extraordinary 24 hours in which an emergency Cabinet meeting was called, only to break up at 4 am without reaching any decisions to protect the franc.

As the franc fell against the dollar and hit its lower intervention point against other currencies in the European Monetary System (EMS) banks in Brussels refused to change foreign banknotes for visitors.

Mr Martens proposed to suspend until the end of this year the linking of wages and other incomes to inflation: *introduce a new index system* from the beginning of 1982 which would exclude petrol, alcohol and tobacco; *reduce by* 10 per cent the money that companies receiving state assistance can pay as wages; revise the voluntary wage pact agreed last month; and a freeze on maximum permitted retail prices.

But the Socialist members of the Cabinet apparently rejected the package. These draconian proposals were made after a week in which the Belgian Government came under increasingly intense pressure to devalue the franc against other currencies in the European Monetary System. The Belgian National Bank is thought to have spent 21,000m francs (£262m) in support operations over the last two days of last week.

International disenchantment with the franc reflected disappointment at the scale of spending cuts announced by the Government after another emergency cabinet session held only a week ago. The decision by the National Bank to raise its interest rates last week also failed o boost he currency.

Belgian currency is vulnerable mainly because of Belgium's very high level of Government debt. By the end of February this had mounted to more than 2,000,000m francs

On the other hand Belgium's inflation record has been consistently better than the Community average. Bu last monh he annual rae of inflaion suddenly rose well above the 7 per cent level. This increase may have stiffened Mr Martens's resolve to tackle indexation, but it has also added plausibility to market suggestions that a devaluation of 10, 12 or even 15 per cent cannot long be avoided.

Uganda Army is accused of killings

From Our Correspondent
Nairobi, March 30

The Ugandan Army is being accused of indiscriminate retaliation on the population for recent guerrilla attacks by groups opposed to President Milton Obote.

The bodies of 40 civilians, including a teenage schoolgirl, were recovered by relatives in the Namanve forest, six miles east of Kampala, at the weekend. All had been shot dead. The forest was notorious as a dumping ground for people murdered during the Amin era.

Local residents searched the area for the bodies of relatives who had disappeared during Army sweeps in areas where guerrilla attacks took place recently. According to one eyewitness at least 10 more unidentified bodies were lying in the forest.

Food as weapon: President Obote said in his speech that he would stop essential imported commodities going to areas where people are supporting anti-government dissidents, according to Uganda radio. The President made it clear that he was thinking especially about the Baganda tribe areas around Kampala (AP reports from Kampala).

'Tomahawk' on target

Point Mugu, California, March 30.—A Tomahawk cruise missile, launched under water, succeeded in hitting a land target 300 miles away, the United States Navy announced today.

Seamen missing

Tarragona, March 30.—Five of the 31-man crew of the 12,780-ton Greek tanker Kavo Kambanos, ablaze off the Spanish port of Tarragona, were reported missing today.

Zurich youth given back their centre

From Our Correspondent
Geneva, March 30

Zurich's fringe youth movements, responsible for frequent Saturday night disorders over the past nine months, have obtained official assent to the reopening of their AJZ (Autonomous Youth Centre) in the Limmatstrasse, closed by police last September.

The decrepit three-storey building, once a municipal depot and ofices, has been the focus of repeated clashes between police and demonstrators who occupied it for 36 hours earlier this month befor eagain being evicted.

The agreement to let them return has been negotiated with the municipality by representatives of the Protestant and Roman Catholic churces and of Pro Juventute, a long-established youth body.

The municipality will make available the equivalent of £250,000 for refurbishing the premises which will also provide community-type dormitory accommodation.

The public, keeping their fingers crossed, hope this means the end of inconvenient weekend disorders with damage to property.

Soviet professor says drug was planted on him

Michael Scammell

News has reached London that Professor Konstantin Azadovsky, the noted Leningrad literary scholar, was sentenced on March 16 to two years in a labour camp on a charge of possessing drugs.

His close companion, Svetlana Lepilina, was last month sentenced on a similar charge to one and a half years in a labour camp.

Neither Professor Azadovsky nor Miss Lepilina has been involved with the dissident movement and their unusual case has been the subject of much comment in Leningrad literary circles.

In the first place, the charge of drug possession is comparatively rare in the Soviet Union, and there are strong suspicions that the drug was in both cases planted.

Miss Lepilina, who at her trial admitted possession, had been given a sealed packet containing four grams of marijuana by a Spaniard, named as Hassan, who told her that it was medicine for a third party. Immediately the packet was handed over she was detained by a group of *druzhinniki* (civilian vigilantes) and taken to a police station to be searched. During the investigation of her case she was threatened with 10 years' imprisonment unless she made a confession of guilt, which she finally did.

In the case of Professor Azadovsky, it was claimed that he had been found with five grams of cocaine (later changed to marijuana) in his possession. From the start, he maintained that the drug had been planted.

During the search of his flat, two rooms were ignored completely, but his entire library was ransacked, and several books were removed, together with a priceless archive of photographs of twentieth-century Russian writers, which had been bequeathed to Professor Azadovsky by M. Boltsvinnik, a collector.

Professor Azadovsky holds the chair of foreign languages at the Mukhina College of Applied Arts in Leningrad, and is the leading Soviet specialist on Rilke, and on literary links between Germany, Austria, and Russia.

His conviction is thought by some to be a reprisal for his refusal to give evidence in 1969 against a friend who was also tried on a drugs charge. Others fear that his popularity with Westerners—his home was a meeting point for visiting literary specialists—may have had something to do with it.

Professor Azadovsky is also a prolific translator. Among other things, he translated into Russian Shelagh Delaney's *A Taste of Honey*, which ran for six years at the Maly Theatre in Leningrad.

South African soldier kills eight shoppers

From Ray Kennedy
Johannesburg, March 30

Eight people were tkilled and 11 injured when a South African soldier armed with a semi-automatic assault rifle ran amuck in a trading store in Oshakati (?)mbo, northern Namibia.

Army spokesmen in Windhoek said three soldiers and five civilians were killed, and two other soldiers and 10 civilians had bee ninjured. A member of the Battalion, which comprises mainly black Ovambo troops, has been arrested.

Army authorities are also investigating an incident in which three white trainee paratroopers were killed and six injured, three seriously, when a mortar bomb exploded in their hut near a training barracks, at Bloemfontein in Orange Free State, at the weekend.

The bomb is believed to have been taken into the hut.

Dutch squatters safe from police in Soviet offices

Amsterdam, March 30.—Dutch police have been unable to comply with a Soviet request to evict squatters from an Intourist office in Amsterdam, officials said today.

Two empty floors of the Intourist building were occupied by squatters on Saturday during a national day of protest against a new housing law restricting squatting.

But a city official said today that the Public Prosecutor's Office had established that no criminal act had been committed and therefore the police could not be involved.

The floors above the Intourist office had been empty for about two years, the official said. According to Dutch law, this makes them fair game for squatters, who can be evicted only after lengthy litigation.—UPI.

Invasion would sever aid from West

US and Bonn agree

From David Cross
Washington, March 30

Before the assassination attempt, President Reagan today spoke by telephone to Herr Helmut Schmidt, the West German Chancellor and both leaders agreed that any measures by the authorities in Warsaw or Moscow to repress the Polish workers would mean the end of Western economic aid for that country.

Announcing this at the White House today, Mr Reagan's spokesman said that the President had spoken to Herr Schmidt for about 15 minutes this morning on the delicate situation in Poland.

"Both the President and the Chancellor feel that in the event of suppression being applied either externally or internally in Poland, it would be impossible to render further economic assistance to Poland".

He added that Herr Schmidt had also spoken by telephone to President Giscard d'Estaing of France about Poland. The situation in the country continued to be fluid and Washington was watching developments very carefully, he added.

The disclosure of the private telephone conversation between Mr Reagan and one of this country's most important allies was highly unusual since the Administration has been very careful to keep diplomatic contacts out of the public eye. It underlines the significance which President Reagan and his foreign policy advisers attach to deterring any Soviet invasion of Poland.

While the Administration here continues to monitor the tense Polish situation apprehensively, a senior member of Congress has warned Moscow that a military tilt towards communist China by Washington would most likely follow a Soviet invasion of Poland.

In a television interview broadcast here over the weekend, Senator Charles Percy, the moderate Republican chairman of the Senate foreign relations committee, said that when President Carter was in office last year, the White House asked the Pentagon to prepare a list of lethal weapons and equipment which could be sold to Peking in the event of a Soviet intervention in Poland.

After the interview, Mr Zbigniew Brzezinski, who was Mr Carter's National Security Adviser, issued a statement confirming the general thrust of Senator Percy's remarks.

Senator Percy said that the possible use of the so-called "China card" would probably have "the most meaningful and significant" effect on Moscow in considering whether or not to send the tanks into Poland.

The sale of lethal military equipment to Peking was obviously an option which would be considered by President Reagan and his advisers if Moscow invaded Poland, he added.

Although Washington has agreed to sell the communist Chinese ancillary defence equipment, like transport and communications equipment, policy in Washington is to decline any requests for lethal war material from Peking. President Reagan and his foreign policy advisers have refused to rule out any possible retaliatory measures against Moscow in an effort to keep all their options open.

In another television interview yesterday, Mr Caspar Weinberger, the Secretary of Defence, told reporters that any American response would cover "a broad spectrum of activity —political, economic, diplomatic".

Amid all the concern about Poland, however, the Administration here has not abandoned hope of a peaceful outcome. Mr Alexander Haig, the Secretary of State, said yesterday in yet another television interview that Soviet intervention in Poland was still "neither imminent nor inevitable".



Mr James Brady, the presidential press secretary, lies wounded while police wrestle with the gunman after the attempt on Mr Reagan's life.

Jagielski visit to Paris

From Our Own Correspondent
Paris, March 30

Mr Mieczyslaw Jagielski, the Polish Deputy Prime Minister, is paying a two-day visit to Paris on his way to Washington. Essentially, the visit is concerned with Western financial and economic aid to his country.

But he is also expected to give President Giscard d'Estaing, whom he is meeting tomorrow, a run-down on the latest political developments in his country, and particularly the decisions of the Polish Communist Party's Central Committee.

He saw M Jean Francois-Poncet, the Foreign Minister, today and will also have a meeting tomorrow with M René Monory, the Minister for Economic Affairs, on the consolidation of the Polish debt and the immediate economic aid which the member countries of the European Community are prepared to give his country, in accordance with the decision taken at the Maastricht summit last week.

France is the chairman of the corsortium of Western countries which has been discussing the funding of the Polish debts. It met last week in Paris in a restricted session, but nothing has been disclosed about its deliberations.

Polish party blames the leadership

From Dessa Trevisan
Belgrade, March 30

Representatives from the factory floor, who habitually endorse their leaders' policy without even speaking, stood up in the Polish Communist Party Central Committee meeting in Warsaw last night and denounced the highest party authorities for failing to respond to the demands of the nation's rank and file.

Their action revealed how deep is the gap between the Communist leaders and the party base, and it showed clearly what dangers lie ahead.

Mr Olszowski, the controversial Politburo member, warned the angry members that there were "universal principles for countries of real socialism". By this he meant that within the Sovier block there are definite limits beyond which no communist party can reform itself—that any challenge from the base or innovation at the top is regarded as dangerous since it could lead Moscow to conclude that the party was about to disintegrate.

However, the workers' delegates were in no mood to stay silent. They declared that they would "never act" against the class they came from. And they told the leaders point-blank that their local party organizations had ignored the leadership's instructions to abstain from last Friday's warning strike called by Solidarity. They were fully aware, they said, that they were violating party discipline; but equally they were conscious that they were inseparably linked with the working class.

Mrs Jadwiga Nowakovska, a worker from Lodz, accused the old power elite of wanting to turn the clock back. The rank and file, she said, would resist all provocation that might push the party on the "road of violence". She accused the leadership of deliberately misinforming the public and exposing party members to dramatic and unnecessary temptations.

A woman worker from Wroclaw talked of police action in Bydgoszcz as "a brutal violation of constitutional and civic rights and freedoms". Why could the leaders not listen to the voice of reason, she asked. In her opinion they were not listening to the basic organizations.

A worker from Bydgoszcz said that this was the last chance for the party. If it failed and tragedy ensued, society will never forgive not only the highest party echelons but the party itself.

That was why the Politburo could not decide on the fate of the rank and file without consulting the workers themselves.

Daunting Middle East mission for Mr Haig

By Richard Owen
Washington

The arrival in Cairo on Thursday of Mr Alexander Haig, the Secretary of State, will be the first test of whether the Reagan Administration has a clear Middle East policy.

The early days of a new administration are often chaotic, and the emphasis currently laid by Washington on its "coherent" foreign policy is a sure sign that coherence is just what it lacks.

But in the Middle East, at least, the outlines of American policy are beginning to emerge. Whatever their personal differences, most of President Reagan's men agree that the principle aim of American policy in the Middle East is to obstruct the Soviet Union, not least in the Gulf region.

Mr Haig talked in a recent hearing before the Senate Foreign Relations Committee of the need for a "consensus of strategic concerns" in the Middle East, embracing Turkey and Pakistan as well as the Arab states and Israel.

The concept is deliberately vague, but is intended to concentrate minds in the Middle East on the threat posed to the area by Soviet ambition.

State Department officials have been hastily putting together a detailed Middle East package for Mr Haig to take on his tour. The hope is that the Secretary of State will be able to persuade the Israelis, the Egyptians, the Saudis and the Jordanians to agree that what they have in common with each other—and with the United States—is suspicion of the Soviet motives.

"If we can get them to agree on that," one of Mr Haig's aides said, "we might be able to get some common ground on Palestine. The old idea was that if you solve the Palestinian question first, Arab agreement to Western moves in the Gulf would follow. We're turning that on its head".

This will be music to the ears of the Israelis and their supporters in Congress since it effectively relegates the Palestinian question to a secondary role. It will be received with rather more scepticism by Arab states, to whom the "Gulf first, Palestine later" formula smacks of earlier, cruder Administration statements to the effect that Palestine does not really matter very much.

There is a tendency in Washington—though less among State Department professionals than elsewhere—to underrate the commitment of countries like Saudi Arabia to Palestinian claims, including Palestinian claims to Jerusalem. This is matched by a tendency to overestimate the willingness of the *Arab states, especially* in the Gulf, to accept a Western military presence.

The Rapid Deployment Force, initiated by President Carter, is being taken up and expanded by his successor, but without any clear idea of what role it is supposed to play. The general principle is that an American or Western interventionist force should be stationed in and around the Middle East to deter Moscow from expansionist moves.

Wilder voices in the Administration do not stop there, however. Such a force, they say, should be used to shore up local regimes if they are threatened by Soviet-inspired sedition.

News analysis

This raises the spectre of American troops becoming entangled in hopelessly complicated internal conflicts. There will be intense debate in Congress over whether American troops should be stationed in the Sinai Desert when Israel hands over the last parcel of territory there to Egypt a year from now.

Under the Camp David agreement, the United States is obliged to set up an "international peacekeeping force"

The Senate Foreign Relations Committee, headed by Senator Charles Percy, is generally sympathetic to the Administration's approach, and leans toward the Israeli point of view. But the Zionist lobby in Washington is unhappy with the decision to supply Saudi Arabia with offensive weapons for the F15 fighters it received from America during President Carter's term.

There are conflicting views within the pro-Israeli lobby, since some think that Israel should have protested more vigorously over the sale of American arms to the Saudis.

This babble of discordant voices, sometimes within the same "camp", is reflected in the confusion over whether the "European initiative" on the Palestinian question can be made to coincide with American aims.

Mr Haig has let it be known —at least to his own staff— that he wants no more talk in public of policy differences between Europe and America. The European attempt to bring the Palestine Liberation Organization into peace talks, the argument runs, might actually be useful, since any talks which exclude the Palestinians are not likely to be fruitful.

"You bring the PLO along, and we'll bring the Israelis" is a remark heard—rather surprisingly—in some quarters in Washington. But this is an anathema to some of the more extreme, possibly to Mr Reagan himself, and Mr Haig *will have* to avoid offending Israeli sensitivity on this matter during his visit to Jerusalem.

Farm price marathon opens in Brussels

From Michael Hornsby
Brussels, March 30

An increase in EEC farm prices this year of at least 12 per cent was demanded here today by a majority of European agriculture ministers at the start of what was billed as a three-day marathon meeting on the annual Community farm price settlement.

Meanwhile, outside the headquarters of the Council of Ministers there was vociferous support for an even higher price increase of 15 per cent from some 2,000 farmers who held a rally and let off firecrackers in the middle of one of Brussels' main thoroughfares blocking traffic for several hours.

Last week's call by the European Parliament for a 12 per cent price rise was cited by many ministers as justification for going beyond the 7.8 per cent increase that has been proposed by the European Commission. Only Britain and West Germany argued for price restraint.

Mr Alick Buchanan-Smith, the Minister of State for Agriculture, said there was more reason than ever for restraint in view of the national price rises that the Commission was proposing to offer a number of member states by devaluing their "green rates".

The result of these devaluations would be to raise farmers' support prices in Denmark, Ireland, France, Italy and Greece by amounts ranging from 2 per cent to more than 9 per cent. These increases would come on top of any increment agreed in the common price level.

Mr Buchanan-Smith, backed by the West Germans reminded his colleagues of the need for budgetry caution. A 12 per cent increase, he claimed, could breach the binding 1 per cent limit on the amount of value added tax (VAT) that can be levied to finance the Community's policies.

There was support from Mr Poul Dalsager, the European Commissioner for Agriculture who said that a 12 per cent increase would add about £660m to the EEC budget over a full year compared with only £270m if the Commission's own proposal was adopted.

While calling for price restraint, the British minister also said his Government wanted the current 13p a lb consumer subsidy on butter in Britain to be continued, a measure that adds to the Community's budget costs.

Mr Buchanan-Smith argued that it was better to subsidize *food consumption inside the* EEC, thereby maintaining demand, than to sell food surpluses outside the Community at subsidized prices. This was a dig at the French who are the biggest gainers from the subsidized export trade.

The ministers were due to hold further discussion of the proposed "groom rate" change tonight and then reassemble tomorrow morning possibly to be presented with new proposals from the European Commission reflecting the general desire for a higher price rise.

Chirac attack: M Jacques Chirac, the Gaullist leader, said today Britain should leave the European Community if it was not prepared to accept Community decisions on farm prices and other issues (*Reuter* reports from Paris).

At a campaign lunch attended by French journalists, he said Britain showed "tenacity matched only by its hypocrisy" in seeking advantages for itself in the EEC. If it proved impossible to persuade the British to change their ways "we must make them understand that the best solution would be to leave the common market," he said.

Gypsies hit back at Communists

From Our Own Correspondent
Paris, March 30

Paris was treated to the unusual spectacle this morning of a procession of gypsies' caravans from the Place de la Nation to the Place de la Bastille, focus of popular protest since July 14, 1789.

They were drawn by cars, often large American models, carried placards which read "A stop to fascism and racialism", and came from all over France. A loudhailer proclaimed at intervals that "gypsies, like other Frenchmen, will soon vote".

The gypsy protest was against a campaign by a branch of the Communist Party in a suburb north of Paris calling on local authorities to remove gypsies from the area.

After foreign workers and drugs, the Communist Party has fastened on the gypsies as another popular theme with which to mobilize its rank and file in the election campaign.

For the past fortnight, leaflets have been dropped in the letter-boxes of residents in the "Red" suburb of Rosny-Sous-Bois urging the "departure of nomads". It demands, if necessary, police intervention to prevent the gypsies' resettlement in any part of the municipality.

It all stems from the invasion about six months ago of the parking lot in the centre of Rosny by 100 gypsies' caravans, which annoyed the local population and particularly shopkeepers.

The trouble is that the spread of urban development to traditional gypsy camping grounds at Marnes-la-Vallée, south-east of Paris, has forced the gypsies to disperse throughout the Paris area in search of other alternative sites. In February the Socialist Mayor of Plaisir, another municipality in the Paris area, had to call in the police to control the number of caravans after complaints from local traders.

There are about 30,000 gypsies in the Paris area—about a quarter of all those left in France. One-third of them have kept to their nomadic habits; the rest have settled down, usually in shanty towns.

Rapid urbanization since the war has deprived them of many camping grounds on the edge of towns. Few municipalities have studied the problem seriously or made adequate provision for the gypsies. As a consequence, gypsies have tended to concentrate in large numbers at the few sites still open to them.

The Communists have not invented the problem, but they seem determined to exploit it for political ends and harp on the xenophobic streak deep in every Frenchman.

Moral asset for Socialist candidate

A figure from the past backs M Mitterrand

From Charles Hargrove
Paris, March 30

M Pierre Mendès-France, who announced last week—as he had done in 1974—his support for M François Mitterrand, the Socialist candidate, broke a silence of nearly two years to explain in a radio round table discussion why he was doing so.

He said that in his opinion, "only a government of the left, which had given proof of its mettle from the very moment of taking power, could bring the working class to accept the discipline and exercise the patience necessary to bring about the essential changes in French society".

M Mendès-France is one of the very few prime ministers of the 21 governments which held power in bewildering succession under the Fourth Republic to have earned and retained the respect and admiration of a wide circle of Frenchmen, who do not necessarily share his *left-wing* views, and the only one to be regarded as a sort of political sage.

An austere and courageous man, he tried unsuccessfully to make Frenchmen drink milk, but he also put an end to the war in Indo-China, and gave independence to Tunisia, in the eight months in which he held office.

His humanistic socialism has acquired official consecration as the philosophy of "Mendèsism", and some of the leading personalities in French politics and the administration of the Fifth Republic regard themselves as its disciples.

He retired from active politics after the events of 1968, in which he played a prominent if controversial part. One of his last appearances *was in a public* debate in 1969 against M Giscard d'Estaing. Though he belongs to a political generation of the past, his support is a valuable moral asset to M Mitterrand.

What he had to say last night revealed some affinities with both M Chirac, whose condemnation of the irresolution and laxity of the present Government he echoed, and with M Barre, the Prime Minister, whose call for austerity (however relative) he echoes.

But he emphasized that a "policy of austerity could only be successful with the consent and support of public opinion. Its rejection was inevitable, however, from the moment a large number of French men and women had the conviction the policy pursued in the past few years was designed to consolidate acquired rights and privileges, routines and waste, and bad habits inherited from the past,

M Mendès-France said that the country did not have the impression of being governed by men who knew where they wanted to go. One day it was told that reflation was the thing; the other that investments must be reduced; yet another that the currency must be defended at all costs, and everything is sacrificed to it.

To revitalize French economic life, he said, the state must accept an increase in its foreign deficit; give greater help to certain industries, and especially export ones; reduce em*ployers' social contributions in* return for a reduction in working hours; and slow down the increase in purchasing power of middle and higher salary groups.

These suggestions should be put to the other countries of the EEC.

He went on to say that he was very struck by the attitude of the Communist Party, which facilitated the re-election of M Giscard D'Estaing. "It is a permanent feature of the party to do all it can to prevent the non-communist left from coming to power," he declared. "But a left-wing government cannot fail to have the support of public opinion, and this support will be such that the Communist Party itself will perhaps be compelled to take it into *account*.

"It is challenging the country to impose on it the continuation of the same policy. It must at long last be admitted that the faction which has been deprived so far of all possibility of action now has a right to speak," he said.

M Jean-Philipple Lecat, the spokesman for M Giscard D'Estaing, said this afternoon M Mendès-France had been away from active politics a long time, and did not know all the details. "But he inspires respect, even if we do not share some of his analyses."

Greek papers win price appeal

From Our Own Correspondent
Athens, March 30

Two Athens newspapers have decided to lower their prices after winning appeals against a government order making it a punishable offence to sell newspapers at less than 15 drachmas (about 13p) a copy.

The afternoon newspaper *Avriani* went on the newsstands today at five drachmas, while the morning *Rizospastis* which is the organ of the pro-Moscow Communist Party, announced it would sell at 10 drachmas from tomorrow.

US to seek tough nuclear line

From Michael Hornsby
Brussels, March 30

Senior American and European officials meet here tomorrow for the first time since the Reagan Administration came to power to consider the future of the talks between the United States and the Soviet Union on the reduction of theatre nuclear forces (TNF) in Europe.

The officials meet as the Nato special consultative group, a body set up last year under the Carter Administration to enable the United States to consult its European allies fully on the line to be taken in the TNF negotiations with Moscow.

The new chairman of the group is Mr Lawrence Eagleburger, the American Assistant Secretary of State-designate for European affairs, who toured European capitals last month to explain and canvass support for United States policy on El Salvador.

Nato members agreed in December, 1979, to deploy 572 American cruise and Pershing *2 nuclear missiles in Europe* from 1983 to counter the mobile SS20s which the Warsaw Pact already has in place on its side of the border.

At the same time, it was agreed that the West should also seek to open negotiations with Moscow on limiting the expansion of these new arsenals, using the prospect of the deployment of the new American missiles as an incentive to bring the Russians to the conference table.

The first round of TNF talks between the Americans and Russians was held in Geneva last autumn. The question is when to resume these discussions, and what approach to pursue, particularly on some of the ideas set out in President Brezhnev's recent letter to Western leaders.

Most European governments would like the TNF talks to be resumed as soon as possible. In particular, West Germany, on whose soil most of the new weapons would be located, might be hard put to maintain domestic support for their deployment without evidence that the arms limitation talks were being pursued seriously.

For their part, the Americans will be looking for a firm rejection of Mr Brezhnev's proposal for a "moratorium"—in effect, a freeze—on the deployment of TNF weapons. Washington argues that this would merely formalize the existing Warsaw Pact superiority in such arms which the talks are intended to reduce.

The moratorium idea has been floated before by the Russians, and last year relations between Bonn and Washington were severely strained for a time when Herr Helmut Schmidt, the West German Chancellor, appeared to have taken it up.

Bishop Tutu urges Britain to take tougher line against apartheid

By Michael Knipe

Undeterred by threats from Pretoria that his passport may be withdrawn Bishop Desmond Tutu, the secretary-general of the South African Council of Churches has called on the British Government to take a tougher line over apartheid.

He made his appeal when he met Sir Ian Gilmour, the Lord Privy Seal, and Mr Richard Luce, Minister of State at the Foreign Office, yesterday.

The bishop, perhaps the most prominent black South African still pressing for peaceful change from what he calls "the most vicious system since Nazism", argues that Britain is not doing enough over apartheid in South Africa.

"We have been told that when you have a Conservative government, they have a better chance of persuading other right-wing governments to make changes," he said at a press conference, adding: "But I'm not sure your Government has applied all the pressure it could."

He is hoping to persuade the British Government that it was in its interests to commit itself more fully to the ending of apartheid.

Bishop Tutu, who had his passport returned in January after an eight-month confication, is completing a tour of Europe and the United States, in which he has been calling on the international community to apply political, diplomatic and economic pressure on South Africa to induce it to change its ways.

He could not advocate economic sanctions, he said, because he could then be charged in South Africa with economic sabotage, an offence that carried a minimum sentence of five years' imprisonment. He emphasized that he was firmly committed to working for parliamentary change "by reasonably peaceful means". It was strange, he said, that someone seeking change through non-violent means should be penalized by the withdrawal of a passport. Perhaps this would convince the world that there was no really effective peaceful means left to blacks in the republic.

Pretoria hopes journalist will defer going to jail

From Ray Kennedy
Johannesburg, March 30

A *South African journalist*, sentenced to 14 days imprisonment, has been told he need not hurry back from Washington to serve his jail term.

Mr John Matisonn, the Washington representative of the Johannesburg *Rand Daily Mail*, *last* week lost an appeal against his conviction and sentence for refusing to name the sources of a report about the right-wing Christian League. This organization has been connected with the almost forgotten but not quite dead Information Department affair, which rocked the South African Government two years ago.

A spokesman for the Cape provincial Attorney-General's office said it would not be necessary for Mr Matisonn to return to South Africa to serve his sentence until it has been decided whether to go ahead with further investigations against him.

The statement is obviously of some comfort to Mr Matison but clearly of a lot more to *the ruling National Party*, which wants the ghost of the so-called Muldergate affair to lie down and die—which it obstinately refuses to do.

There is no question that the announcement has anything at heart but the interests of *justice*, and possible further investigations against Mr Matisonn.

But there is no doubt that it suits the National Party down to the ground if he stays in Washington, until at least April 29 when South Africa holds a general election, instead of rushing back and proclaiming: "Here I am. Please lock me up."

If he did so he would become in instant *cause célèbre* and just what the opposition *Progressive Federal Party, the* Herstigte Nasionale party and even Dr Connie Mulder's inconsequential National Conservative Party would need to slash National Party votes.

Muted reaction to death of Dr Eric Williams

From Jeremy Taylor
Trinidad, March 30

Dr Eric Williams, the Prime Minister of Trinidad and Tobago, died suddenly last night. No announcement was made here for 12 hours by which time President Ellis Clark had consulted with the leadership of the ruling Peoples National Movement (PNM) and had appointed a successor, *Mr George Chambers*, the Minister of Agriculture and Industry.

At the end of his fifth consecutive five-year term, Dr Williams had been facing a serious wave of industrial unrest but reaction here today was muted suggesting that his death may be a traumatic experience for Trinidad and Tobago.

A *whole generation has* grown up knowing no other leadership but Dr Williams's austere aloof and autocratic style and personality. Banks and some businesses remained closed and there is a period of mourning until April 17.

Mr Chambers, who will be 50 this year, also takes over as Finance Minister. He has been one of Dr Williams's three deputy leaders in the PNM with responsibility for party policy.

He is a low-key, respected figure, moderate and untainted by recent allegations of Government corruption. He has not been noted as a dynamic minister or as a serious contender for the leadership which may have helped his swift appointment as Dr Williams's successor.

There will inevitably be challenges from within the party particularly with general elections expected within six months. Dr Williams's death is not likely to mark any dramatic change of *direction* at least for the moment.

Divisions in the ruling party are defined more by personality than ideology.

Obituary, page 1

Death of a godfather heralds a round of killings

From Michael Leapman
New York, March 30

Police are bracing themselves for a new round of Mafia killings here following the death yesterday of Frank Tieri, the 77-year-old godfather of the most important organized crime "family" in the country. When such important Mafia figures die it is traditional for the succession to be decided by the gun.

It was only last November that the small, dapper but by then ailing Tieri, a Brooklyn sportswear manufacturer, made gangland history by being the first man convicted specifically of being a leader of the Mafia, or Cosa Nostra. His empire stretched through New York and New Jersey and included such activities as extortion, illegal gambling, prostitution and, by extension, death.

He was sentenced then to 10 years in jail and a $60,000 fine but was free on bail of $75,000 pending an appeal. He was first arrested in 1922 and jailed for armed robbery. He had a record of nine convictions.

Tieri took over the crime "family" that used to be run by the legendary Vito Genovese in 1972, when its then leader Tommy Eboli was shot and killed in Brooklyn. Tieri was a prime suspect in the killing but nobody was charged.

A policeman called him "one of the classiest gangsters in the New York area". One of his recent convictions was for trying to defraud creditors of the bankrupt Westchester Premier Theatre, with which Frank Sinatra's name had been linked in press reports.

When Carlo Gambino, acknowledged as one of the most *formidable* American mobsters, died in 1976, Tieri became the most powerful Mafia personality in the country, the "boss of all bosses". The two had been close friends and partners.

The Federal Bureau of Investigation, who are the source of all the knowledgeable news reports about organized crime in the American press, have yet to publish their list of contenders for the throne Tieri has vacated.

Even before they do, nobody would be surprised to see the bodies of some of the hopefuls turn up in car boots on the outskirts of the city, or at the bottom of rivers or reservoirs weighted with concrete.

By coincidence, Tieri died on the eve of the conspira... which began in New ... today, of Carlos Ma... said to be the head of ... Mafia in Louisiana and the ... Coast. The FBI have ... ving to have him depo... 1952.

Brazil pays high price to carry out its ambitious nuclear plan

From Patrick Knight
São Paulo, March 30

Brazil's first nuclear power station is to start test operations in April, and by the end of the year the American-built plant should be fully operational.

Like the whole of the controversial Brazilian nuclear programme, the plant is several years behind schedule, and is costing far more than originally expected.

In a year of widespread public spending cuts, only the nuclear programme has survived unscathed—more than a billion dollars is to be spent this year.

Although the first power station is American-designed, West Germany is involved in building eight power stations, a uranium enrichment plant, a reprocessing facility and a heavy components factory for operation by 1990, although that date has since been postponed.

The nuclear programme is intended to make Brazil the regional manufacturer and supplier of nuclear technology. An unspoken part of the package is possible access to nuclear weapons, a capability which Brazil's neighbour and long-term rival Argentina has had for several years.

Much, however, has changed since the heady days when the nuclear programme was conceived—not least the size of Brazil's overseas debt. The agreement with West Germany was signed with little public debate and without the involvement of the country's own nuclear scientists, who were then regarded with suspicion by the military authorities.

Power from the first nuclear station will cost considerably more than the power from hydro-electric stations, which are more reliable and safer. But the nuclear lobby seems to have survived all setbacks and criticisms, even though the date for completion of the eight-station programme has been postponed to the year 2,000 by the Energy Ministry.

Brazil has, however, had some success in persuading its neighbours that it can help them with their nuclear programmes. Agreements have been signed with Venezuela and Colombia to exchange technology and train staff. Perhaps when this happens, the cost of the nuclear programme will justify itself.

Pretoria condemned: Two senior Brazilian ministers in Africa last week repeated Brazil's condemnation of South African incursions into Angola and Mozambique, with which Brazil has been developing close links.

Senhor Saraiva Guerreiro, the Foreign Minister, on a three-day visit to Nigeria, Brazil's leading African partner, spoke of future "perceptible differences between our position and that of the United States regarding black Africa". He said Brazil had a "well known position" of supporting the Angolan Government.

Senhor Cesar Cals, the Energy Minister, in Angola to sign an oil exploration agreement, condemned South African aggression against Angola.



The Pope playing bocce while visiting the Rome parish of San Sabas on Sunday.

Gen Viola faces Perón pardon question

From Andrew McLeod
Buenos Aires, March 30

Argentina's new President has a daunting array of political and economic problems to confront as he begins his first term in office.

Lieutenant-General Roberto Viola, who was sworn in yesterday as President, must quickly assert his control over the Government if the military's "national reorganization process" is to survive.

On the economic front, the agriculture and industry ministers represent conflicting interests. The country's foreign debts have increased threefold over the past five years, and an overvalued currency has badly hit exports.

Inflation has been reduced to 84 per cent from about 10 times that figure in 1976, the year the military ousted the Government of President Maria Estela Perón. But a recent run on the peso because of fears of a devaluation has badly depleted foreign reserves.

Señor Oscar Camilion, the new Foreign Minister, a civilian linked to the Integration and Development Movement Party, must solve Argentina's dispute with Chile over the Beagle Channel.

The Pope has ruled in favour of Chile in the two countries' dispute and staunchly Catholic Argentina must either accept the Pope's decision or face worsening relations with the Church.

Relations with the United States since the Reagan Administration took office have greatly improved. However, a recent drive against dissidents has raised fears that a gradual move to more liberal internal policies may be halted by dissident factions within the armed forces themselves.

General Viola also faces the problem of Señor Perón, whose lawyer appealed on Friday against an eight-year sentence on her for mishandling Peronist Solidarity Crusade funds. The general was anxious to have the problem resolved before he took office.

The new President must now decide whether or not to grant Señora Perón a special pardon.

The members of the new Argentine Government sworn in yesterday by President Viola are:

Interior: General Horacio Liendo. Foreign Relations: Oscar Camilion. Treasury: Lorenzo Sigaut. Justice: Amadeo Frugoli. Defence: Rear-Admiral Norberto Couto. Agriculture: Jorge Aguado. Industry and Mining: Eduardo Oxenford. Trade and Maritime Interests: Carlos Garcia Martinez. Labour: Brigadier Julio Cesar Porcile. Social Welfare: Vice-Admiral Carlos Lacoste. Public Health: Vice-Admiral Amilcar Arguellos. Public Works: General Diego Urricariet. Culture and Education: Carlos Burundarena.

Prominent Argentines call for end to persecution

From Our Correspondent
Buenos Aires, March 30

More than 500 people, including Señor Adolfo Pérez Esquivel, the 1980 Nobel Peace Prize winner, and Jorge Luis Borges and Ernesto Sabato (the writers), have signed a statement, published in today's edition of the mass circulation daily *Clarín*, demanding that "disappeared persons reappear alive".

The signatories, who also include politicians, artists and trade union officials, called for an end to the "persecution of people" and demanded "the freedom of children and relatives".

The statement also called for the release of people "held for political reasons" and trade union members, and "the end of censorship and all restrictions to freedom of expression, gatherings and access to education and culture".

In this way, the statement concluded, "the spirit of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights will be complied with".

The statement appeared the day after General Roberto Viola was sworn in as Argentina's thirty-eighth president and the second president of the Armed Forces "National Reorganization Process".

General Viola has been widely expected to embark on a more liberal course than that of the previous Videla Government. However, recent internal disputes within the Armed Forces may delay liberalization.

President Viola is expected to give an address to explain his Government's programme.

Cosmonauts return safely

Moscow, March 30.—Two cosmonauts, one Soviet and one Mongolian, returned to Earth safely today after almost a week on board the Salyut 6 orbital space station.

The Mongolian cosmonaut, Captain Jugderdemidiyn Gurragcha, and his Soviet flight commander, Mr Vladimir Dzhanibekov, landed in Soviet Central Asia, according to Tass.

The cosmonauts took off in their Soyuz 39 space ship on March 22 and the next day linked up with the space station, which was already manned by Vladimir Kovalyonok and M. Viktor Savinykh.

The four cosmonauts carried out a joint programme of scientific and technical experiments, Tass said. They are reported to have done photographic work designed to help locate natural resources on alnd and at sea. Mr Savinykh and Mr Kovalyonok, who have been in orbit for 16 days, remained on board the space station to continue their mission. —Reuter.

Tapes evade Hongkong ban on film

From Richard Hughes
Hongkong, March 30

The anti-communist film, *The Coldest Winter in Peking*, which was banned by Hongkong censors after one day's showing, will now be converted to video tapes in Taiwan for use in Hongkong.

No action can be taken by Hongkong authorities to prevent this by-passing of the censorship, which does not affect private screening of any films.

The film, which was produced by the Taiwan company, Central Motion Picture Corporation, depicts the tragedy of a British-educated Chinese scientist who returned to Peking and was persecuted by Red Guards during the Cultural Revolution. It cost $2m (£869,000) to produce and will be shown by invitation at an Italian film festival this year.

The publicity given to the censorship in the Chinese press and the initial response to the crowded one-day showings at 17 Hongkong cinemas will certainly promote the sale of video tape recordings.

Mr Pierre Lebrun, Hongkong's chief censor, who originally approved the screening of the film because he said he had interpreted it as "an entertainment drama based on well-known historical facts", then banned it allegedly because he realized through Hongkong press coverage that "it had political overtones and could be used as propaganda".

He has denied that the ban was due to outside pressure and said today that it was not his concern if it was shown in private homes.

The Hongkong customs department also cannot prevent the video tapes being imported. "As long as there is no copyright breach we cannot confiscate the tapes", a spokesman said.

The Taiwan film company is planning an appeal to Hongkong courts against the censorship ban. It is claimed that HK$300,000 (£25,000) was spent advertising in Hongkong

Phnom Penh starts reconstruction amid concern at prospect of aid cuts

Spectre of food shortage haunts Kampuchea

From Bernard Estrade
of Agence France-Presse
Phnom Penh, March 30

The pro-Vietnamese Heng Samrin Government, more than two years after assuming power here, has gone beyond the stage of simple survival and is reconstructing the economy and normalizing political life.

At the same time, despite the presence of an *estimated* 180,000 to 200,000 Vietnamese troops in the country, the general security situation here and in the provinces is tending to deteriorate.

Travel restrictions on foreigners — whether journalists or representatives of international companies — have increased since January, with authorities blaming "lack of security", "dangerous roads" and "bandits."

Despite improved agricultural output, Kampuchea is not expected to be self-sufficient in food for another two or three years. This year it will fall short by 250,000 tons of rice, an official said.

Kampuchea's survival, after a catastrophic situation inherited from four years of Khmer Rouge power, is attributed largely to international aid which reached $600m (about £273m) last year, the biggest such sum since the Second World War.

In 1979 the country produced only 400,000 tons of rice, according to official figures. A year later the figure had soared to 750,000 tons. This year's goal is 850,000. But official statistics estimate that Kampuchea, an exporter of rice before it became embroiled in war, needs a million tons to feed its people.

As a result, officials here are exteremely concerned about the impending cut in international aid. "If we cannot guarantee a minimum, all we have done since 1979 will have served for nothing", an aid programme *official said*.

At the political level, the Heng Samrin Government, which came to power in January, 1979, after a successful offensive by Vietnamese troops, announced a draft constitution on March 12 confirming its socialist character. The text also confirmed the regime's close ties to Vietnam and Laos, and its alignment with the Soviet block.

Members of a National Assembly are to be elected, probably in April, and their first task will be to adopt the constitution.

Regional elections were held earlier this month, as the authorities are proceeding state by stage, with voters choosing from a list of candidates drawn up after consultation with people's organizations.

From surveys taken at several polling stations, it could be ascertained that a great majority of the candidates were leaders or activists of these people's organizations, who are already responsible for handling affairs at local level.

Meanwhile, a "political education" campaign is under way, officials said, with an increasing number of meetings at places of work on such subjects as the proposed constitution, elections, and Central America.

Loudspeaker systems have been installed in the capital and all the other cities correspondents were able to visit, and revolutionary songs, slogans and political speeches are broadcast at dawn and dusk.

The freedom of movement allowed to citizens during the regime's first months in power has been somewhat restricted, some Kampucheans said when questioned. Authorization to travel is now granted by an applicant's local community leader—or in the case of civil servants by an appropriate government ministry—and only after a written request.

Although the discreet Vietnamese presence appears to have been generally accepted, because it guards against the spectre of a Khmer Rouge return, some Kampucheans expressed concern at the new order of things.

According to several reliable sources, some people were paying agents $300 to be smuggled out of the country and into Thai refugee camps. The journey usually took 48 to 72 hours.

It was not known how many refugees were fleeing the country, but the numbers did not compare with those of Kampucheans returning to the country, which reached 320,000 by the start of the year, according to a United Nations official.
—Agence France-Presse.

Misuse of powdered milk blamed for increasing infant mortality rate

By John Witherow

Infant mortality caused by misuse of powdered milk is growing in many Third World countries despite widespread awareness of the dangers, according to Oxfam.

The organization has produced a film outlining the problems in Yemen, and a book by Dianna Melrose entitled *The Great Health Robbery*.

The book emphasizes that milk powders, which are designed for use in rich countries with high standards of hygiene, can be lethal where water is scarce and contaminated, and where most mothers are illiterate and cannot understand the dangers of dirty feeding bottles.

This can lead to diarrhoea, dehydration and—in extreme cases—malnutrition and death.

The Oxfam campaign is part of the build-up to the world health assembly in Geneva in May when the group hopes that resolutions will be passed against indiscriminate use of baby foods and drugs in the Third World.

The film and book criticize the marketing of powdered milks, in Yemen, many of which are manufactured in the EEC countries. They claim women feel obliged to buy the goods to appear progressive and "western", but they are not aware of the possible health hazards.

"In countries like Yemen, the only safe way to feed a baby is from the breast," Miss Melrose said. Despite being a relatively wealthy country, the average life expectancy in Yemen is 39 years. The country also has one of the highest infant mortality rates in the world because so many women are using powdered milk.

The book criticizes the large number of medicines being sold by untrained staff.

The Great Health Robbery (Available from Oxfam, 274 Banbury Road, Oxford OX2 7DZ. Price: £1.30). The film is available in 16mm colour from Concord Films Council Ltd, 201 Felixstowe Road, Ipswich IP3 9BJ.

Communists in India head for another split

From Our Correspondent
Delhi, March 30

The Communist Party of India is heading for another split. The Central Committee's recommendations to expel Mr S. A. Dange, one of the founders of the party, is coming before the party's National Council on April 12.

But the party is already wracked by divisions. While rank-and-file members are afraid of yet another split, the official leadership of the CPI and Mr Dange's faction are seeking support for a showdown at the national council meeting.

The CPI has had tow splits so far. A faction, now known as CPI (Marxist), broke away from the party more than a decade ago and Mr Dange's daughter, Mrs Roza Deshpandey, founded another Communist Party just before the Indian elections

Mr Dange, who is close to Moscow, believes in supporting Mrs Indira Gandhi's Government

Last Tuesday, Mr C. Rajeswar Rao, the CPI's Secretary-General, had asked Mr Dange to explain his activities "in the service of Congress(I) against the CPI."

Mr Dange said in his reply over the weekend: "You may malign me, punish me with expulsion . . . Many more secretaries before tried to do that but repented later. I know you will not repent. Only you will go down the drain of West Bengal more easily."

Colombian guerrilla raid ends in debacle

From Our Foreign Staff

Colombian troops have been scouring southern areas near the Ecuador border for the remnants of a April 19 Movement (M-19) guerrilla group which was captured recently.

But though the Government and Army are congratulating themselves on killing 19 of the guerrillas and capturing another 74, it appears that the main responsibility for the guerrillas' losses lies with M-19 itself.

The debacle began early this month when about 100 guerrillas armed for a series of assaults had to sink the boat taking them up the Mira River because it was too large. A vehicle to which the arms were transferred was later caught. The guerrillas themselves were handed over to the Colombian authorities when they sought asylum in Ecuador after attacking Mocoa and two other southern Colombian towns.

Only one member of M-19's leadership, Señor Jaime Bateman Cayon, is still at liberty. But though the capture has crippled the resilient M-19 group, more serious is the fact that it had already lost the wide public sympathy it enjoyed among the Colombian people.

Many Colombians secretly applauded the movement's 1980 siege of the Dominican embassy in Bogotá, because it drew attention to human rights violations by President Julio Cesar Turbay Ayala's Government.

Support faded and a split within M-19 became evident earlier this month, however, when members kidnapped and killed Mr Chester Bitterman, an American missionary who worked for the Summer Linguistics Institute in Bogotá. M-19 said the institute was a Central Intelligence Agency front.

Señor Bateman tried to dissociate the leadership from the kidnapping from the start, but seems to have had only limited success doing so in the public mind, which no longer holds M-19 in esteem.

The group's popularity since its founding 11 years ago stemmed from its general defiance of political and military leaders.

Its own ideology has always been so vague that many observers doubt that M-19 has the full backing of Cuba, though President Fidel Castro has provided training and refuge for the group in the past.

Law Report March 30 1981 Chancery Division

Full charges to be met on oil pollution contract

Shell Tankers (UK) Ltd v Astro Comino Armadora SA

Before Lord Justice Waller, Lord Justice Eveleigh and Lord Justice Dunn

The owners of a lightening vessel assisting a leaking oil tanker to prevent pollution by taking off a part of her cargo were not in breach of the lightening contract when they refused to comply with a request by the tanker's master, made after the threat of further pollution had been removed, to make a return trip to take off the whole of the cargo.

The Court of Appeal dismissed an appeal by the defendants, Astro Comino Armadora SA, the owners of the *Pacific Colocotronis*, from a decision of Mr Justice Sheen, in the Commercial Court, that the plaintiffs, Shell Tankers (UK) Ltd, owners of the lightening vessel, had carried out their contractual obligations and were entitled to remuneration of US$150,000.

Mr Ian Hunter, QC, and Mr W. R. Siberry for the appellants, the tanker owners; Mr Anthony Hallgartern, QC, and Mr Brian McClure for Shell, the lightening vessel owners.

LORD JUSTICE EVELEIGH said that the Pacific Colocotronis was sailing from Algeria to Wilhelmshaven, in West Germany, with 72,000 long tons of crude oil. On September 28, 1975, she sustained damage in a south-westerly gale off the Dutch coast which resulted in oil escaping and forming a slick. Shell agreed to send their lightening ship Drupa to the scene to render assistance at a charge of US $15,000 per day but subject to a minimum payment of US $150,000. On September 30 the parties agreed that the services of the Drupa would be provided on the terms of Shell's standard lightening contract.

The contract stated: "Whereas the Pacific Colocotronis ("the tanker") is off the Dutch coast and has requested the assistance and the Drupa ("the lightening ship") is available to render assistance by taking off part of the tanker's cargo and so lightening her, . . . it is . . . agreed as follows: 1. In order to render assistance as aforesaid . . . the lightening ship . . . will proceed with utmost dispatch to the vicinity of the tanker and stand by to take and receive . . . on board so much of the cargo of the tanker as the master of the tanker . . . shall direct . . . The lightening ship will then either carry the cargo to such port as the owners of the tanker shall reasonably designate or as near thereunto as she can safely get and there discharge the said cargo . . . 2 Upon such discharge of cargo the lightening ship shall either return to the vicinity of the tanker to render further lightening assistance as aforesaid . . . or if no such further assistance is required shall be returned to the orders of the owners of the lightening ship . . ."

By October 2, 62,000 tons had been removed from the tanker. The Drupa discharged that oil at Wilhelmshaven and then set off to return to the point from where she had been diverted. Before she left the appellants requested that she return to the tanker to take off her remaining oil. Shell took the view that they were under no obligation to return as they had taken off more than enough oil to prevent further pollution.

The appellants refused to pay Shell $150,000 on the ground that some smaller sum was payable since Shell had not fulfilled the terms of the contract. Their case was that Shell's obligation under clause 1 of the contract was to take and receive on board so much of the cargo as the tanker's master should direct. Further the appellants contended that clause 2 indicated that a request by the master should determine whether the Drupa should return to give further assistance or should be free to return to the orders of her owner.

However, the construction that the appellants wished the court to put on the contract necessitated ignoring the recital and failed to give full weight to its operative part. The assistance that Shell were obliged to provide was that stated in the recital—"to render assistance by taking off part of the tanker's cargo and so lightening her".

The word "assistance" in isolation was meaningless. It was necessary to ascertain the purpose for which the assistance was requested. The appellants' purpose in seeking Shell's assistance was to take off part of the cargo and thus eliminate the risk of causing further oil pollution. No evidence had been called by the appellants to contradict that. They claimed that it was not permissible to look at or take into account oral statements as to purpose and that the intention of the parties had to be gleaned solely by reference to the contract. But that was just what was being done—following the instructions of the contract to discover its meaning. And even if that was the wrong view, following Lord Wilberforce's dictum in *Prenn v Simmonds* ([1971] 1 WLR 1381, 1383), the preliminary negotiations could be taken into account in construing the contract.

Evidence of the master's request was therefore permissible evidence to identify the meaning of "assistance". It meant that the Drupa was to return to the tanker only if assistance was required for the purpose of removing further oil in order to prevent further pollution. That was never suggested.

That was enough to dispose of the case. But the appellants further contended that "required" in clause 2 meant "requested" and thus imposed an obligation on Shell to return to give further assistance on the tanker's master requesting them to do so. Without concluding the point, it seemed clear that "required" connoted something more than a request; it meant that at least the request should be made as a matter of necessity and if it was one to be made by the master, only one that he could make as a matter of necessity for the purposes of the contract—namely preventing oil pollution.

The appeal should be dismissed.

Lord Justice Dunn and Lord Justice Waller delivered concurring judgments.

The appeal was dismissed.

Solicitors: Holman, Fenwick & Willan; Waltons & Morse.

No tax exemption allowed on land development gains

Pogson (Inspector of Taxes) v Lowe and Another

Before Mr Justice Vinelott

[Judgment delivered March 27]

An agreement in November, 1973, to sell land subject to obtaining planning consent and at a price to be agreed by valuers nominated by the parties is not an "arrangement" to dispose of the land and does not entitle the vendors to the exemption in paragraph 4 of Schedule 4 to the Finance Act, 1974, from the tax on development gains imposed by section 38 of the Act.

HIS LORDSHIP, in a reserved judgment, allowed an appeal by the Crown from a decision of general commissioners in favour of the taxpayers, Mr Alfred Lowe and Mr George Lowe. He upheld in principle assessments for 1974-75 made on them to capital gains tax of £28,893 and £30,417 respectively and to income tax of £313,399 each in respect of the sale of 38½ acres of land in Nottinghamshire.

The taxpayers, nurserymen, owned land at Beeston. In September, 1972, they applied for planning permission in respect of the land that was eventually granted in May, 1974. At a meeting in November, 1973, the local council indicated its wish to buy the land and the taxpayers agreed to sell. Terms of a sale contract were discussed and included a method to be adopted for agreeing a price and making the sale subject to the grant of planning consent. A note was taken of the discussions. The parties thereafter believed themselves committed to an agreement in principle and correspondence passed between them regarding the transaction. The eventual sale price of the land of £900,000 and certain other terms were not agreed until after December 18, 1973, and were finally evidenced by a contract dated May 6, 1974. The taxpayers were assessed to capital gains tax and to income tax on development gains. Their appeal contesting liability to pay income tax under section 38 of the Finance Act, 1974, was allowed by the commissioners. The Crown appealed.

Section 38 provided for certain development gains arising on the disposal of land to be chargeable under Case VI of Schedule D if the disposal gave rise to a chargeable gain under the capital gains tax rules.

Paragraph 4 of Schedule 4 provided an exemption from section 38 where an owner of land "had before 18th December, 1973, arranged (without entering into a binding contract) to dispose of" his land.

Taxation of development gains terminated on the introduction of Development Land Tax. Section 45 of the Development Land Tax Act, 1976, contains a similar transitional exemption.

Mr Robert Carnwath for the Crown; Mr Leonard Bromley, QC, and Mr A. H. Walton for the taxpayers.

MR JUSTICE VINELOTT said that the question was whether the commissioners were entitled to find that the taxpayers had before December 18, 1973, "arranged" to sell the land to the council. Mr Bromley cited several authorities and in particular relied on *In re Mileage Conference Group of the Tyre Manufacturers' Conference Ltd's Agreement* ([1966] 1 WLR 1137), in contending that the taxpayers and the council had entered into a scheme involving mutuality in November, 1973, and by December 18 had taken steps to implement it. In so doing each had mutual-obligations towards the other: they felt that they were committed to the transaction and that, after they had appointed their respective valuers, a sale of the land would almost inevitably follow.

But the meaning attributed to an "arrangement" in earlier and different statutory contexts did not assist in construing what was meant by "arranged" in paragraph 4. The word was not a term of art but a word in common use and one which had a wide and flexible meaning. The word did not always import an element of mutuality.

The question was not whether the taxpayers had entered into "an arrangement" but whether they had "arranged" to dispose of the land to another. It was impossible to hold that that was so. They had merely arranged for their respective valuers to meet and negotiate a price that each could recommend to his respective client. Neither side regarded themselves as committed legally, morally or commercially to accept the negotiated price. The commissioners had been wrong in their conclusion.

Moreover, even if the negotiations between the parties had amounted to an arrangement to sell before December 18, it was not either "made in writing" or "evidenced by a memorandum or note thereof so made before that date", and thus did not meet the requirements of paragraph 4 (a).

The appeal was allowed.

Solicitors: Solicitor of Inland Revenue; Acton, Simpson & Hanson, Nottingham.

Court of Appeal

No unfair dismissal after 'I am resigning' statement

Sothern v Franks Charlesly & Co

Before Lord Justice Stephenson, Lord Justice Fox and Dame Elizabeth Lane

[Judgments delivered March 27]

The words "I am resigning" are unambiguous and mean "I am going now". The Court of Appeal so stated when allowing an appeal by Franks, Charlesly & Co, London solicitors, from the decision of the Employment Appeal Tribunal (Mr Justice May) that the words, said by Mrs Iris Maida Sothern, office manager for the solicitors, were ambiguous and could not constitute an actual and effective resignation by her.

Mr Christopher Carr for the employers; Mr Nigel Murray for Mrs Sothern.

LORD JUSTICE FOX said that Mrs Sothern, aged 44, who was an experienced office manager, began her employment with the firm on October 12, 1977. A written service agreement provided that she was to give not less than two weeks' written notice of termination of employment.

When her employment began, the firm were planning to move their offices. In August, 1978, at a critical stage in the run-up to the move, Mrs Sothern submitted a letter of resignation, stating that her remuneration was inadequate and that the senior partner, Mr Franks, had been critical of her work. The firm agreed to increase her salary and she stayed on. She played a substantial part in the administration of the move to new offices.

The move placed a strain on everyone, and relations between Mrs Sothern and Mr Franks deteriorated. After the move, she went on holiday. She was expected back on November 2, 1978, but did not return until November 6. On that afternoon there was an acrimonious meeting between the two. *Mrs Sothern was* present at a partners' meeting in the evening in her capacity as partnership secretary, but Mr Franks was absent. At the end of the meeting Mrs Sothern *said* that she had something to say. Precisely what she said was disputed.

The industrial tribunal concluded that whether or not Mrs Sothern intended to tender her resignation and whether or not she chose her words carefully, she did express a present intention of resigning and that was so understood by those present at the meeting.

Mrs Sothern's evidence was that she said that if Mr Franks's attitude towards her did not change her position would be intolerable and she would be forced to leave. Mr Rudie, a partner, said that he could not recall her exact words but the substance was that she had decided to leave the firm. Three other partners recalled that in effect Mrs Sothern had said "I am resigning". Whatever was said, it seemed clear that Mr Rudie then thanked Mrs Sothern for her services, thereby seeming to accept her resignation, even though none of the partners knew when her resignation was to take effect.

The next day Mrs Sothern returned to work, and the following day she told Mr Rudie that if Mr Franks wished her to leave he should tell her so and give her his reasons.

On November 24 Mrs Sothern's solicitors wrote to the firm denying that she had resigned. In a reply Mr Rudie stated that her notice of resignation ran out on November 20, 1978, and that she would be paid up to that date.

Mrs Sothern claimed that she was unfairly dismissed. The industrial tribunal had stated that if as a matter of law the words "I am resigning" without stating when the *resignation was to take place* could be said to constitute a resignation in unambiguous terms that was the end of the matter. That must be correct. But the tribunal had held that the words were ambiguous; that Mrs Sothern had no intention of resigning; that while those present at the meeting might have understood that she was intending to resign, no reasonable employer with any knowledge of the background would have understood the words as constituting an actual and effective resignation.

The Employment Appeal Tribunal upheld the decision of the industrial tribunal stating that the words were ambiguous as they could have meant "I am going, here and now", or "I shall be going in due course on a date that we all agree", or "I shall be giving you my due two weeks' notice in writing pursuant to the terms of my contract of employment".

His Lordship did not think that the words were ambiguous and would interpret them as meaning "I am leaving now". They were so understood by the partners at the meeting; Mr Rudie had accepted Mrs Sothern's resignation and thanked her for her services. It was clear that she had intended to terminate her employment. Therefore, she could not have been dismissed. As the words were unambiguous the question what a reasonable employer might have understood the words to mean did not arise. His Lordship would allow the appeal.

Lord Justice Stephenson and Dame Elizabeth Lane delivered concurring judgments.

Solicitors: Franks, Charlesly & Co; Philip Conway Thomas & Co.

Newspaper fined £500 for contempt of court

The publishers of the *Northampton Chronicle and Echo* were fined a "moderate" £500 by Lord Lane, the Lord Chief Justice, in the High Court in London yesterday for an admitted contempt of court.

The newspaper reported on matters dealt with at a Crown Court in the absence of a jury. As a result, the trial of Mr Donald Warm at Northampton on charges of forgery and obtaining money dishonestly was stopped in its fourth day. The newspaper had published a report that Mr Warm had pleaded guilty to 12 other offences.

Lord Lane accepted an apology from the editor, Mr Gerald Freeman, who said that a junior reporter was confused by pleas taken in the jury's absence.

Lord Lane said: "This contempt was caused by a disastrous series of errors and there has been a candid and unqualified apology."

PARLIAMENT, March 30, 1981

Orderly and agreed way forward sought on Civil Service pay

House of Commons

The deterioration in the central government borrowing requirement due to the civil servants dispute was of the order of £500m to £750m, Mr Leon Brittan, Chief Secretary to the Treasury, said in reply to a private notice question.

Mr Brittan (Cleveland and Whitby, C) said in a statement: About three quarters of the normal tax revenues are currently being received by the Exchequer. There is no risk to overall economic management, as the money owed to the Government will eventually be paid over.

There will be a short-term increase in the money supply which will subsequently be created.

The main effect at the moment is inconvenience to the public, but there would be serious damage to the prospects for further reduction in inflation if the Government conceded an excessive pay settlement.

Mr John Peyton (Yeovil, C): He should resist the temptations which governments often feel to keep such difficult matters under wraps.

The persistence of those who are public servants and widely respected, in harassing those who they should be serving is likely to be counter-productive and diminish sympathy. It will call attention to the advantages they enjoy which are not widely shared.

Mr Brittan: I agree on both points. I see no reason why the public should not be kept informed on what is a matter of public concern and interest.

Actions which have the effect of delaying people at ports and interfering with immigration procedures, for example, cannot assist the reputation of public servants who have an important and valuable duty to do.

Mr Robert Sheldon, an Opposition spokesman on Treasury and economic matters (Ashton-under-Lyne, Lab): How much revenue is being withheld, and how much is the borrowing requirement going to increase as a result of this action?

What will be the effect in numerical terms on the money supply, and what damage will there be to the already injured medium-term financial strategy?

How does he intend to arrange the extra borrowing that may be required—through Treasury bills or the sale of gilts?

As the Government is always lecturing industry on how to behave, one of the worst aspects of this is that the Government give its own employees in the Civil Service the feeling they are disliked by the employer, and it is an important matter Mr Brittan will have to return to.

Mr Brittan: There is no question of disliking our own employees, but there is the question of the serious dispute that has arisen. That is a different matter.

The deterioration in the central government borrowing requirement due to the strike is of the order of £500m to £750m.

There has been no extra borrowing of any significant size because the Government was planning borrowing of the expenditure required in any event at present.

There will be an eventual increase in the money supply, the extent of which cannot be quantified at present, but it will be small. It will on the other hand be correspondingly reduced when the money comes in. I see no effect on the medium-term financial strategy.

Mr Dudley Smith (Warwick and Leamington, C): Civil Service employees have received a 50 per cent increase over the past two years. Thousands of my constituents would be grateful for such an increase. It is time civil servants showed some responsibility.

Mr Brittan: I hope those involved in the dispute will listen to what has been said. The increase, on average, over the past two years has been 50 per cent.

Mr Kenneth Woolmer (Batley and Morley, Lab): If he is so convinced that the civil servants have been given unduly favourable treatment in pay, why was the pay research suspended? What proposals has the Government as an employer in relation to the Inland Revenue staff?

The way in which the Government is handling this dispute is highly likely to lead to the most serious implications to employees and employers that the Civil Service has ever seen.

Mr Brittan: No. Staff in local collection offices are refusing to bank cheques they have received.

On pay research, it would be a mistake to think that has always been implemented automatically by governments of either party. That has happened only in a minority of cases.

The Chancellor has made clear we want to find a system which will be generally acceptable.

Mr William van Straubenzee (Wokingham, C): I have received representations from responsible civil servant constituents expressing the view that the offer in cash terms is reasonable, particularly given the economic state of the nation, but they are concerned about the future. He should give greater publicity as to their hopes for the future.

Mr Brittan: I welcome the opportunity of that question to do that. We want to reach agreement on an orderly and agreed way forward. Many people in the Civil Service take his view. Many are working in a perfectly ordinary, orderly and responsible way.

£25m for fishing industry hit by continuing uncertainty

The Government is to provide £25m to help the fishing industry, Mr Peter Walker, Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, announced in a statement.

Mr Walker (Worcester, C) said: The Government considers that it is vital to retain the strength of the British fishing industry. It will be known that for this purpose during the past year the Government has already provided £37m worth of aid to the industry, and it was originally envisaged that this aid was for a period ending on March 31.

The House will know that the Government made the decision to bring forward the review of the financial position of the industry and the results of this review show quite clearly that markets are weak and increasing costs and continuing uncertainty are hitting the fleet hard.

The Government has therefore decided to make further aid available to the industry to help it through the continuing uncertainty and difficulty.

The sum of £25m will be made available for distribution through a scheme on broadly similar lines to the fishing vessel temporary support scheme introduced last August.

By taking this action the Government will therefore again have confirmed its determination to see that the British fishing industry continues to make an important contribution to our economy and continues in readiness for taking full advantage of a common fishing policy when negotiations are completed.

Earlier in his statement, Mr Walker reported on the breakdown of the Council of Fisheries Ministers meeting held in Brussels on Friday.

He said: As the House will know, this meeting was called following the discussions on fish at the European Council at the beginning of last week. However, it quickly became apparent that one delegation was not able to negotiate on the crucial question of access and that therefore there was no possibility of agreement on a comprehensive, revised common fisheries policy.

In those circumstances the President decided that it would be wrong to prolong the meeting which ended shortly after lunch. Ministers from all member countries committed their governments to make every endeavour to reach overall agreement this spring, and invited the Presidency to reconvene the council as soon as the necessary preparations allow.

Mr Roy Mason, chief Opposition spokesman on agriculture (Barnsley, Lab): The French have been the real culprits in blocking any progress in the common fisheries policy talks. Do I take it there will be no progress until after the French presidential elections and we shall have no more Fisheries Council meetings for six weeks?

When the Canadian cod deal is eventually agreed with the Germans what prospects are there for United Kingdom fishermen getting fishing rights in these Canadian waters?

Can he clear up criticism that has been levelled at his Minister of State (Mr Alick Buchanan-Smith) that he has sacrificed our demand for the 12 to 50 mile preference zone?

On the aid, the House and the industry will be most grateful for this financial assistance. All sectors of the industry were facing widespread collapse. Many of the vessel owners are already up to their neck in debt. This will stave off bankruptcy.

How long is this aid supposed to last? Will it go direct to the vessel owners according to the size of the vessel?

Will he consider taking steps to finance the restructuring of the British fishing fleet and not keep waiting for the eventual outcome of the common fisheries talks?

Our competitors are doing it, the Germans in particular, and once more we are slipping behind. If a deal is eventually agreed those countries that are restructuring will be best able to take advantage of it.

Mr Walker: I cannot speak on behalf of the French Government as to when they will be prepared to discuss the full question of access. Last week I had bilateral talks with the French minister in which we spent a great deal of time discussing in detail our requirements in terms of access.

He has promised to consider carefully the points we put to him but the timing of the next meeting must rest with the Dutch President of the Council who is anxious to see that the next meeting takes place as quickly as possible.

On the Canadian waters and the ability of the British fishermen to fish there the amount of fishing that Britain took in Canadian waters during the time the Labour Government was responsible was very small.

One year when there was a quota the British fishing industry actually caught half of the quota allocated to it, so the degree to which we can make demands does reflect on past performance.

On the remarks made by the Minister of State, I know of no person in this House or outside who more has the confidence of the fishing industry and certainly there is nothing that he or I have said on fishing negotiations that has not been in close association with the industry. That will continue to be the case until we have a satisfactory settlement.

On the method of payment the nature of the relationship between proprietors and crews varies from one section of the industry and another but in all sections there is a very close association between management, proprietors and crews.

The aid we are giving will be of benefit to the continuation of this industry, the continuation of jobs and appropriate rewards to all the crews concerned.

Mr Michael Shaw (Scarborough, C): There is widespread support for the continued robust stand he and the Minister of State have been taking on these fishing negotiations.

His statement about continued close links that he will have with the industry throughout all future negotiations will be welcomed.

Mr Walker: In calculating the degree of aid we are providing on this occasion, which by any previous standard is substantial, there has been on a joint assessment with the industry on the financial problems of the industry.

Mr Enoch Powell (South Down, Off UU): Will he take the opportunity afforded by the obduracy of the other members of the Council to regain the negotiating stance of an exclusive 12 mile zone and dominant preference up to 50 miles which was approved by the whole of this House?

Perhaps unintentionally, the apparent prevarication of what was said last week by the Prime Minister and this afternoon by himself is arousing anxieties on the part of fishermen.

Mr Walker: There are political interests particularly expressed by those who have no great enthusiasm for a common fisheries policy. The relationship on all matters of access between the industry and the Government is one where we have total agreement. The position we have taken on access and the position we put to the Council of Ministers and the present position which we put to the Commission is a position agreed with the fishing industry.

Mr Albert McQuarrie (East Aberdeenshire, C): How much of this aid has been given by this Government as against what was given by the last Government?

Mr Walker: The volume of aid is roughly four times that given in most years of the previous Government. It is a volume of aid we have calculated as necessary to sustain the fishing fleet in a viable position to take advantage of the common fisheries policy.

It is in the interest of all fishermen (he added) to have a common fisheries policy because conservation which can only be done on a European basis is essential to the future build-up of stocks and will benefit our fishermen more than any fishermen in Europe because we have the biggest fishing industry in Europe.

In reply to a further questi... he said: The French minister sa... openly at the Council of Ministe... meeting that he wanted to co... sider carefully the position ... access and was unwilling to ne... tiate it at that moment.

Not only will it be to the ben... fit of British fishermen to ha... a common fisheries agreement ... it will be in the interests ... French fishermen.

I hope that the French Gove... ment will see and share that vi... point. If that is so there is ... reason why in the coming mon... we should not come to a sensi... agreement.

Mr Nigel Spearing (Newh... South, Lab): The only possi... interpretation of his ear... answers is that both he and ... industry have departed from ... previous principle of domin... preference between 12 miles ... 50 miles.

Mr Walker: Everything I put ... ward has had the agreement ... the industry. Is he criticizing ... industry for not knowing as m... about fishing as him?

Mr Toby Jessel (Richmond u... Thames, Twickenham, C): P... tically all the questions h... reflected the interests of the f... ing industry and the minister ... constantly stressed the needs ... the industry.

The interests of those who ... fish is at least as important. ... have recent events and the st... he has taken affected t... interests?

Mr Walker: It is in the inter... of the consumer that we hav... viable industry with increa... rather than declining stocks.

Estimate of £6.29m for defects at hospital

Mr Wyn Roberts, Under Secretary of State for Wales, denied that there had been any cover-up over defects in the construction of the University of Wales Heath Hospital.

Mr Leo Abse (Pontypool, Lab) had asked if the report of the Welsh Health Technical Services Organization on the defects would be published. He also asked what steps were being taken to recover the costs of remedial work from those responsible for the defective work.

Mr Roberts (Conway, C): The firm of consultant engineers commissioned to carry out a structural survey of the building has prepared a draft interim report, which I do not propose to publish, but which estimates the cost of the recommended remedial work at £6.29m.

The question of liability is under consideration by our legal advisers.

Mr Abse: Why will he not publish the interim report? He should publish the final report as taxpayers' money is involved. From the very beginning there has been concern about inadequate supervision in the way the decision was made about the hospital and the way it has been supervised.

If legal proceedings are pending and if there is no doubt that any potential defendant will eventually have access to the report, why is there a cover-up at this stage and a refusal to make sure the full facts are known?

Mr Roberts: There is no cover-up whatever. Publication of the final report will be for consideration when it is received.

Because of the issues of liability which are under consideration I will need to be sure that publication of the interim or final report would not prejudice any legal action

Midlands facing terminal seizure: Opposition appeal for pace-maker

Although the current level of unemployment was staggering there was ample evidence from experience in the Midlands that the figure would increase and not decrease, Mr John Sever, speaking for the Opposition, said when opening a debate on unemployment in the Midlands.

Mr Sever (Birmingham, Ladywood, Lab) said that throughout the townds and cities of the Midlands the plague of unemployment was raging through the lives of countless thousands of families bringing distress and unhappiness on a scale undreamt of even in their wildest nightmares in May, 1979.

Arguably, the present Conservative administration was the most doctrinaire and reactionary in modern British politics.

If the number of those unemployed not yet registered could be quantified the current 2,500,000 level of unemployment would be well above 3,000,000.

The figure for the Midlands was now 428,700; in May, 1979, that figure was 188,600. Labour MPs had felt the May, 1979, figure was totally unacceptable; today it was twice that. The current level of was staggering but he feared it would increase.

Hundreds of factories were on short-time working. There was a threat felt by every employee working within an enterprise on short-time working that their firms might not weather the economic blizzard settled over them and that short-time working would develop in time to no-time working, and that grossly unfiar foreign competition, the import of cehap, often Government subsidized, goods, the high cost of borrowing and the high value of the pound would mean further reductions in their firms' already thin order books.

In the Midlands firms in engineering, "metal-bashing", car,s components and accessories, carpets, textiles, leather goods, and many others were experiencing extreme difficulties. The list of redondancies and closres was endless.

In Coventry, factories which once boasted high production of manufactured goods, readily saleable around the world, were empty and echoed only to the footsteps of property developers and auctioneers trying to sell the space for warehousing or the machinery for export or scrap.

The hopes and dreams of thousands of families were being killed off becasuse the Government could not ensure work for their breadwinners.

People felt the Prime Minister had sold them out. It was felt that high energy costs were simply another taxation on the backs of small businesses. Crippling levels of interest rates had damaged production capabilities, forcing people to scale down their enterprises and putting workers on the dole.

The Government had inflicted such body blows on industry that there would be no jobs for many young wishing to go into industry. The Government should give greater support to the financing of apprenticeship training.

The Midlands was now in danger of a terminal seizure. The Government must provide a pace-maker at once.

Mr Michael Marshall, Under Secretary of State for Industry (Arundel, C), said that time and again industry in the Midlands, as elsewhere, had made clear its view that control of inflation must be the first priority.

The other factor which the CBI had referred to as of key importance was interest rates. The Government was seeking to move interest rates down as fast as possible without disrupting the primary objective of reducing inflation.

It was easy enough to list the problems and much harder to see the solutions. They had to try to think about what could be done now to help the region weather the recession and unemployment it currently faced and the short-term future when they examined the ways in which it must adapt to ensure that it emerged from the recession with a sound industrial base.

It meant supporting as long as there continued to be a prospect of vialibility the single most important industry in the West Midlands, the vehicle industry. Government support amounting to almost £1bn committed over the past two years had taken into account not just British Leyland but the large number of component manufacturers throughout the Midlands affected by the future of that great company.

Not only (he wente on) are we taking a view here about the motor industry in respect of that particular company, one has also to take a view of whether or not that company is becoming successful in regard to new models.

As part of the effort to stimulate new enterprise the Government had introduced two enterprise zOnes, at Dudley and Corby, in the first experiment of 11 zones. These were early days to evaluate the effect of those oznes would have on the Midlands, but it was an important initiative and one which they would want to watch with great interest.

It meant continuing to support a range of employment schemes designed to keep people in employment or providing opportunities for training and work experience for the unemployed.

It meant helping with particularly acute problems faced in the region which included a determination to see a viable textile and clothing industry.

There was £23m earmarked for 1980-81 through the urban programme and inner city policy.

There were 10 measures of assistance to small firms in the budget, of which the most important was probably the loan guarantee scheme.

The revival after the recession would be led by high technology growth industries. The Government had made available assistance schemes for firms with new processes or projects, especially involving micro-electronics.

Government efforts shoul d be directed to ensuring the Midlands weathered the recession without irreparable damage to its industrial base.

Ultimately it was for the Midlands to act to turn the spirit of enterprise to new directions to secure its future.

Mr Peter Archer (Warley, West, Lab) said they were grateful for any measures to alleviate the position in the Midlands, but there would not be salvation in cosmetic improvements.

An enterprise zone was about to be established just outside his constituency. This might attract small businesses to the area, but did not bring smiles to those people running businessess just outside the area.

They suspected it would attract not a different kind of industry, but competitors in the same kind of business taking advantage of the concessions to compete.

Mr Dudley Smith (Warwick and Leamington, C) said that he doubted whether the West Midlands should still be known as the heartleand of the car industry. That industry had in some respects had its day compared with 15 to 20 years ago. It was now dangerous to make the industry the major industrial factor for the area.

Mr Robert Edwards (Wolverhampton, South-Easst, Lab) said that the policy of deflation had failed in the thirties. What had saved the British economy then was massive rearmament and the Second World War. He hoped they were not heading for that kind of solution today.

Mr Esmond Bulmer (Kidderminster, C) said that he had just returned from Australia and found that the school leaver in Sydney was having at least as much difficulty in getting a job as in Kidderminster.

The last Labour Government had reinforced Britain's Achilles' heel, the rigidity of the labour market, by restrictive legislation which made it harder for companies to take people on.

Miss Betty Boothroyd (West Bromwich, West, Lab) said projections indicated that the total number of young people reaching school leaving age would increase over the coming years and in her area it would rise to 11,500 new people coming on to the register each year. What was frightening was the indication in the assessments that they would be joining a labour force in an area where unskilled and semi-skilled jobs had contracted enormously.

Mr Warren Hawksley (The Wrekin, C) said the level of unemployment wa sunacceptable but he did not blame the Government. The Midlands could not be exempt from the world recession.

The Tories had not been elected to take an easy option, to borrow and print money. This had been tried before. The electors kne wa Tory Government would go for unpleasant medicine which would provi de asure eventually.

Mr Clement Freud (Isle of Ely, L) said the Government should consider constructive job creation. What about money for the Channel tunnel or British Rail? Updatin gof the communications industry would come sooner or later so, with th ecurrent cris ,why could it not be sooner?

Mr Michael Latham (Melton, C) said two traditional East Midlands industries, footwear manufacturing and hosiery and knitwear, were in serious straits. Britain was the easiest place in the wroid into which to import shoes. If the domestic industry was to be maintained it would be necessary to take an increasingly hard line towards imports.

He hoped that retailers, especially those with enormous buying power, would ensure that their purchasing policy was directed towards maintaining a viable domestic manufacturing capacity not only in their own factories but als among their suppliers.

Mrs Renee Short (Wolverhampton, North-East, Lab) said the West Midlands region was fast becoming a wasteland as one firm after another di-appeared. There had been no move of any significance from this Government to encourage the development of viable new industries and small firms.

Mr John Stokes (Halesowen and Stourbridge, C) said the twin evils of British industry—over-manning and low productivity—were with the slump the main cause of the loss of orders and therefore high unemployment. Another failure which was becoming more recognized in the engineering industry was poor marketing and not sufficiently aggressive selling.

There were encouraging signs, with more rtalism on the shop floor where people were accepting sensible and moderate wage increases.

The Midlands had a magnificent labour force, as good as any in the world. What it needed was good leadership from every9ne responsible. That was the most important factor of all.

The slump would end and things would get better. The remedy now was not as Labour MPs suggested in more Government action, but in more determintd action by industry. Many severe and long lasting faults in industry were at last being corrected and that would make for big profits when the slump was over.

It was profits which British industry required and profits would mean many more jobs.

Mr David Wijnick (Walsall, North, Lab) said Mr Enoch Powell's speech at the weekend was inflammatory. It was not ethnic minorities which presented the danger to stability and the social fabric but policies which produced unemployment. Tensions were aggravated by speeches such as Mr Powell's.

The House did not need any lectures on social harmoney from Mr Powell who represented a part of the United Kingdom which had seen so mcuh vilence which to a large extent was due to the Government's policy in Ulster.

Mr Hilary (Bromsgrove and Redditch, C) said they had to face up to the inevitabllity of more and longer-term unemployment than they had been willing to contemplate up to now. The Government should consider bringing forward easier terms for early retirement.

Attitudes were changing. Businesses had become more competitive, leaner and hungrier but there had been a prict to pay for reversing years of decline. They should look seriously at providing new ways of working, new methods of manufacture, and new skills, training, and education.

Mr Geoffrey Robinson (Coventry, North-West, Lab) said in Coventry there had been a 101 per cent increase in unemployment over the last 12 months. The Prime Minister seemed to have been infected with a sort of messianic complex; that was a dangerous disease. instead they needed from the Government a little more realism, pragmatism, and understanding of the real problems facing industry.

Mr David Knox (Leek, C) said the success to date of the anti-inflationary policy was due to a very tight squeeze on company profits and a severe depression of demand. A return to prosperity and full employmentremployment was impossible as long as those policies continued in their present form.

If there was to be a return to economic prosperity the economy had to be expanded. The Government ha dgot to act and stimulate it. The exchange rate and taxes must be reduced.

If expansion policies were pursued they would bring employment to the unemployed and underemployed. They would bring into us under-skilled equipment, generate more wealth and eventually it would be self-financing.

Unemployment was a waste of resources and it was the most serious domestic proble mfacing the country. High unemployment in the 1920s and 1930s had left a legacy of bitterness and class hatred. It led to fear of change, innovation and labour-saving plant and machinery.

It would be tragedy (he said) if we were to repeat the follies of 50 years ago. I ask the Government to make the reduction of unemployment their number one priority because it is the greates human problem we face in Britain.

Mr Bruce George (Walsall, South, Lab) said the Government should lower the exchange rate, introduce selective import controls, seek to reflate the economy, reduce energy costs and abandon lunatic Friedmanism, and introduce a new budget with a new Chancellor.

Mr Jocelyn Cadbury (Birmingham, Northfield, C) sai d the reason behin dthe recent closures went back many years and were very much to do with the structural nature of industr in the Midlands. Unemployment had risen aster fin the Midlands than yother regions because the area was over-dependnet on about four major industries.

Mr James Marshall, for the Opposition (Leicester, South, Lab) said the recession had hit the East Midlands with a vengeance. It was not grabbing trade unionists or poor industrial relations which were to blame for the region's problems: most of them could be placed at the door of the Government. The shadow of Thatcherism hung over the region bringing with it more and more redundancies.

Mr Peter Morrison, Under Secretary of State for Employment (City of Chester, C) said agreement had been reached on one of the largest export projects ever won by the United Kingdom: the sale of a large coal-fired power station to Hongkong. This scheme would pro vide about 34,000 man years of work in United Kingdom firms, including over 6,000 man years in the West Midlands. That was thanks to partnership between industry, Government and the City.

The debate was concluded.

Government defeat: peers want use of airguns restricted

House of Lords

The Government is considering mounting a campaign against the misuse of airguns, Lord Belstead, Under Secretary Home Office, announced when replying to a debate an amendment put forward on the third reading of the Wildlife and Countryside Bill.

The amendment, to Clause 5, which bans certain methods of killing wild birds, was moved by the Earl of Caithness (C) who said the object was toprevent the use of airguns on animals and mammals, except the pest species.

Lord Belstead said power already existed to control the misuse of air weapons by unathorized persons in the way the Earl of Caithness would wish to see. It was an offence to carry a loaded air weapon in a public place or as a trespasser on private land without lawful authority or reasonable excuse.

The Home Secretary (Mr William Whitelaw) had made clear that he had no plans to strengthen the controls in the Firearms Act, 1968. This did not mean the Government was complacent about the problem of the misuse of air weapons but it would prefer to proceed by consent.

The way forward would be to seek to heighten public awareness and sense of responsibility about the dangers of air weapons misuse.

Consideration was now being given to the possibility of mounting a campaign on these lines. The misuse of air weapons against wild-life could form part of the campaign. The question of what should be done would be reviewed when the outcome of any campaign had been evaluated.

The Government would seek views of interested bodies on form of the campaign.

Lord Houghton of Sowerby (I... said that airguns had been ... tended originally as weapons ... firing practice and at fairgrou... Now some people were using ... airgun as a killer of mammals ... birds. The amendment should ... accepted.

Viscount Thurso (L) said he co... not see why the Government ... resisting the amendment. It w... clearly be in the interests and ... fare of animals and the conser... ion of wildlife and the safety ... everybody to make this point cl...

Lord Belstead said the prob... they were trying to deal ... would be better dealt with by ... enforcement of existing legislat... or by a voluntary campaign to ... to heighten public awareness ... increase public responsibility.

It was a pity to move into ... Bill legislation which people mi... misinterpret before trying to ca... people along with a volunt... scheme.

The Earl of Caithness said ... would support the Governme... advertising campaign, but ... amendment tried to reduce ... species that could be shot. Un... the present law many more spe... could be shot, which was wrong.

People had been waiting si... the Green Paper in 1973 for sor... thing to be done about airguns a... nothing had been done. T... amendment was a small step in ... right direction.

The amendment was carried ... 92 votes to 82—majority agai... the Government, 10.

Wildlife Bill through

Lord Stanley of Alderley moved a new clause to make it unlawful for a person to permit a dog to be in a field of less than 25 hectares, subject to certain exceptions, containing sheep or lambs, with a penalty of a fine of up to £200.

His amendment, he said, had drawn the public's attention and, he hoped, the Government's, to the terrible things that dogs did to sheep, particularly during lambing.

Lord Renton (C) said the present law provided adequate protection. It was effective, heavy penalties could be imposed, and dogs which had caused trouble could be destroyed if the court so ordered.

The Earl of Avon, a Lord in Waiting, said the Government was sympathetic to the intention to protect sheep and lambs from dog worrying.

But there was enough legislation to cover this. An inter-departmental working party was set up to look into this matter between 1974 and 1976. It concluded that farmers had adequate powers to defend livestock against attacks.

The amendment was rejected by 88 votes to 70—Government majority, 18.

The Bill was read the third time.

The Earl of Avon, a Lord in Waiting, speaking in the debate, on the motion that the Bill should now pass, said voluntary agreements were the best means of obtaining the cooperation of farmers in carrying out the work needed to conserve areas of special interest.

The Government, he said, believed it would have been counter-productive to have written compulsory back-up powers into the Bill.

The Government wanted to make clear that it had no intention of disturbing the present sites of existing sanctuaries. Its intention was to facilitate the creation of further areas of protection.

The Bill would make many changes and extensions of the law as well as providing the right framework for conservation for many years to come.

Lord Melchett (Lab) for the Opposition, said the part of the Bill dealing with the sites of special scientific interest was not much use without some effective protection for wildlife habitats.

The amendments they ... passed did nothing to com... farmers and landowners to prot... such sites, but made them g... notice before they destroyed the... The issue of violition versus co... pulsion had got confused and the... was now a voluntary code of pr... tice written into a statute.

I do not believe (he said) t... this voluntary code will work an... am convinced that it is a reci... for disaster. The code would ... broken, not everyone would gi... notice, farmers would be blam... and the sites would continue to ... damaged and destroyed. It was ... disaster for the wildlife habit... and the wildlife that depended ... them, because they would not ... protected at all.

Lord Beaumont of Whitley (... said the Bill was one of the l... chances for the conservation ... British wildlife in a countrysi... and agriculture which were bei... put under increasing pressure.

It was hoped that what the Gov... ernment had said was right a... that voluntary agreements wou... stand up and that the rate ... decline would not only slow do... but actually stop. It was hoped t... voluntary agreements would wor... because if not another Governme... would have to do something mo... stronger.

Lord Chelwood (C) said th... Nature Conservancy Council wa... the principal agency responsib... for making the Bill work. Th... NCC was happy to take on thes... extra statutory duties, but it wa... seriously and rightly worried th... its over-stretched resources simp... could not be stretched further.

The Earl of Avon said the Govern... ment recognized the addition... tasks which would devolve upon th... NCC as a result of the Bill. In th... present economic climate it wa... not possible that more mone... would be made available, but th... Secretary of State for the Enviro... ment (Mr Michael Heseltine) would have these additional task... in mind when considering th... future level of the grant.

On the sites of special scienti... interest, the voluntary code shou... be given a good chance. The fa... that it was so urgent that habita... should be protected would give it ... real opportunity for success.

The Bill was passed.

House adjourned, 8.17 pm.

Repairs at Westminster

Mr Michael Heseltine, Secretary of State for the Environment, announced in a written reply that there was to be a major programme of repair and restoration of the Palace of Westminster.

He said: Following a fall of stone in New Palace Yard on March 2 thorough inspections of other areas of stonework, including the Clock Tower and the Victoria Tower, have been started. As was the case after the fall in Speaker's Green in 1979, further potentially dangerous stonework has been found after every new inspection.

Since March 2, numerous decorative pieces of stone have been taken down; some of these could have been dislodged by a slight movement. The pavement beneath the Victoria Tower has also been closed as a precaution while a canopy is erected to give protection from any stone that might fall from the upper half of the tower before it can be properly inspected in a few weeks time.

The inspections so far complete... have increased my concern abo... the condition of the stonework ... and although any identifiable dan... gerous stones have been removed ... I have decided that a start shoul... be made as soon as possible on ... major programme of repair, res... toration and conservation.

In order to reveal the conditi... of the stonework it is essential ... remove the corrosive deposits. ... This will also prevent further che... mical attack on the face of th... stone.

The first phase of the conservat... ion programme, costing abou... £250,000, will start in the rece... this summer; the rate of progre... thereafter will depend on th... extent to which work can procee... while Parliament is sitting and o... the level of funds that I can allo... cate to this programme in succes... sive years. My aim is to complete ... the work in as short a time a... possible.

Good value for money from the arts

In general the public gets good value for the money it invests in the arts, Mr Paul Channon, Minister for the Arts, said during questions.

Mr Michael Neubert (Havering, Romford, C) had asked whether he would request the Chairman of the Arts Council to include in his annual report an account of the volume and nature of the complaints received each year and any action taken in consequence.

Mr Channon (Southend, West, C): It is for the Arts Council to determine the contents of its annual report, but I shall point out to the chairman his suggestion.

Mr Neubert: As the Home Secretary imposes conditions on the BBC and IBA would it not be appropriate for similar conditions to be put on the Arts Council?

Would it not be a salutary reminder of its obligations to that wider public which pays through its rates and taxes for Arts Council grant-aided activities compared with the much smaller number of people who directly benefit from state support fro the arts?

Mr Channon: A great number of people do benefit from state support for the arts. I am n otunsympathetic to his suggestion. There is a great deal of good sense in it.

Mr Andrew Faulds, Opposition spokesmajn on the arts (Warley, East, Lab): Perhaps there is some merit in the suggestion, and perhaps that matter should be considered.

But since there appears t obe at present a general campaign of vilification against the Arts Council, primarily by the supposed ply newspapers, would he take the opportunity, if he can, of standing up to the Arts Council?

This is quite the best way of organizing funding at arm's length all arts activities throughout the country.

Mr Channon: It is the best way. That has been the vew of all my predecessors, from whatever party they came. Th epublic as a whole gets good value for money in a variety of ways through support for the arts.

Mr Dudley Smith (Warwick and Leamington, C): There is a suggestion that the Arts Council may have given some money towards a Marxist book shop.

Mr Channon: I do not know of that particular case, but if he will give me deatils I will take the matter up

There will be cases in the margin which may give cause for legitimate concern , but i n general people get good value for meodey. The amount of interest and extra activities for the arts over the past few years has been remarkable.

Building agency to get grant

The National Building Agency is to get a grant-in-aid from the Government of £386,000, Mr John Stanley, Minister for Housing and Construction, announced in a written reply.

He said: In 1980-81 the National Building Agency was paid grant-in-aid of £564,000 in addition to its expected income from fees of over £2.5m. The Secretary of State for the Environment (Mr Heseltine) has decided to make a grant-in-aid payment for 1981-82 of £386,000.

In addition, the NBA is being commissioned by the department to undertake over £150,000 of fee paid work in 1981-82 : and the Housing Corporation have included in their administrative budget for 1981-82 £120,000 for projects they propose to put to the NBA.

Without prejudice to future decisions on the Government's financial contribution to the agency, the arrangements for 1981-82 represent a move towards substituting appropriate contracts for work hitherto included in a programme funded by grant-in-aid.

Parliamentary notices

House of Commons
Today at 2.30 : Remaining stages of the Forestry Bill and the Criminal Attempts Bill.

House of Lords
Today at 2.30 : Water Bill, report. Fisheries Bill, second reading. Debate on need for more effective system of mental after-care.

Cost of weapons

Mr Keith Speed, Under Secretary of Defence for the Roayl Navy, in a written reply, said: The total cost of the current Sub-Harpoon antiship missile programme is estimated to be about £290m at September, 1980, prices.



New perspectives on a controversial old collection

Some Chantrey Favourites
Royal Academy

Recent Chantrey Purchases
Tate Gallery

Victorian Paintings
Riverside Centre, Hammersmith

William Strang RA
National Portrait Gallery

Frederick Austin: Etchings and Linocuts
Blond Fine Art



"Very jolly" . . . Edward Armitage's *Herod's Birthday Feast* at the Riverside Centre, Hammersmith

It is rather extraordinary how even today, more than a century after it became a practical reality, the *Chantrey* Bequest is a subject which provokes frenzies of fury in some of the otherwise most sober, mild, orderly people you could wish to meet. Of course, the precise grounds for the fury have shifted a little. Once it was primarily the question of how the fund was currently administered: who was bought and who was not and how and why. Then it was the whole idea of the fund, laying up for the nation a graveyard of white elephants: who could believe that even in benighted Victorian times they could have wasted so much money on quite so many monstrosities? Now things have come full circle, and again the once-despised bequest paintings from the last quarter of the nineteenth and first quarter of the twentieth centuries are regarded as among the treasures of the national patrimony. So the issues are rather: are they being rightly looked after and shown?

For it must be said that this wholesale revaluation upwards of the Chantrey Bequest's earlier purchases has been carried out largely in absentia. The vast majority of the works concerned are stowed away in the Tate Gallery's stores somewhere in Acton, and never see the light of day, even for diligent, scholarly investigators. The same is true, of course, of many of the pictures in the Tate's own collection; but the point is that the Tate does not directly own the bequest pictures, but is merely custodian of them for the nation. They might, and some people think they should, be taken away and put into more deserving, sympathetic hands. As in all questions of this nature, it is much more difficult than it appears to get at the truth, not to mention the truths behind the truth. Is the Tate just being high-handed, or are there good reasons why so many of the Chantrey pictures are not on show anywhere? No doubt problems of conservation loom large, but who can know how large? No doubt it is also true that many of the nearly 600 works bought under the terms of Chantrey's will have so irrevocably lost whatever charms they may once have had that it would do no one any good to exhume them.

But how can we know? Tastes do change so radically. Even 20 years ago many of the Victorian classics included in the present show of *Some Chantrey Favourites* at the Royal Academy (until May 24) would have been widely regarded as monstrosities; now they are likely to be revered. It is hard to believe, for instance, that for some years in the 1960s and 1970s even *Carnation, Lily, Lily, Rose*, one of Sargent's most brilliant and enchanting works, was relegated to the Tate's basement—certainly if one listens to the audible ecstacies it now occasions. And even making full allowance for schoolday nostalgia, one must still admit that Orchardson's *Napoleon on Board the Bellerophon* is a stunning piece of painting—the more readily appreciable as such now that we have managed to shed most of our once automatic prejudices against any picture that told a story.

Nor is it only the great Victorians, the Alma-Tademas and Frank Bramley's (*A Hopeless Dawn*) and Herbert J. Draper's (*The Lament for Icarus*) who come up live and kicking. We are still in the slow and sometimes painful process of revaluing the symbolists like Cayley Robinson, the meticulous workers in tempera like Harry Morley, the sober realists like James Bateman, J. McIntosh Patrick and Algernon Newton. The works of all of these here provide food for thought. For one thing, they would have been bought, in their time, only by those of conservative taste, such as we may safely suppose the selectors delegated by the Royal Academy normally to be. And in retrospect that is no bad thing; provided there is a certain consistency, everything comes round in its turn.

The conclusion is reinforced by the complementary show at the Tate of works bought by the Chantrey Bequest in the last three or four years: it is undeniably old-fashioned of them to be buying now the work of Anthony Gross or Sheila Fell or Peter Greenham, let alone a John Tunnard and a Julian Trevelyan both dating from the 1940s. But all the works on show are admirable of their kind, and well deserve representation. No doubt by the 1990s the bequest will have caught up with the more obviously advanced artists of today; and at least the passage of time will have made the choice simpler and more sure.

While we are on the subject of inaccessible pictures in public ownership, it is well worth going down to the Riverside Centre, Hammersmith, to inspect the loan show of *Victorian Paintings* (until April 26) mostly drawn from the Cecil French collection left to Fulham Library in 1954 and now owned by Hammersmith Borough Council. Cecil French had a superb collection of Victorian and early twentieth-century British art, particularly strong on Burne-Jones and other Pre-Raphaelites; the only problem has been that Hammersmith has no permanent gallery in which to show the cream of the collection, so it has been languishing unseen for many years now. All credit to the enterprise of Riverside for fishing out 23 choice items and supplementing them with as many more scarcely more familiar from Leighton House, the Guildhall Art Gallery and other sources.

Probably the Burne-Joneses are the most eye-catching: the intense colour of *The Avenging Angel of St Catherine* or *A Fantasy* takes one by surprise, and *The Sower* is a surprisingly energetic oil. But it is a real pleasure to encounter such small-scale, finely rendered Alma-Tademas as *Pleading* (1876), Leighton's *The Music Lesson* is extraordinarily sensuous in its colours and textures, and John George Naish's *Le Greux Harbour, Sark*, features a profusion of foreground pebbles painted with obsessive Pre-Raphaelite nicety. And, if all you want is a straightforward pang of nostalgia, you cannot go far wrong with Millais's suitably sentimental *Princes in the Tower* or Edward Armitage's very jolly *Herod's Birthday Feast*.

Another of the artists of the late-Victorian and just post-Victorian generations most strongly represented in the Chantrey Bequest is now coming up for reassessment. William Strang, indeed, would seem to be an obvious Chantrey artist, though curiously enough the Bequest has only one of his works, a self-portrait purchased shortly after his death. This may have something to do with the oddly sour and alienating quality of his work, which is very much in evidence at the National Portrait Gallery, home until June 28 of the show I wrote about from Sheffield in December. There is something almost defiantly uncosy about Strang; even his most apparently uncomplicated scenes of everyday life ask uncomfortable questions, and he specializes in cold, harsh colours that set the teeth on edge. At least his art is highly distinctive, and admirable even when it is difficult to warm to. The London version of the show has a bonus in the shape of two paintings from the Tate, including perhaps his most famous, *Bank Holiday* of 1912.

Finally, I would like to direct your attention to a small show of work by another forgotten British artist, Frederick Austin, at Blond Fine Art in Sackville Street, until Sunday. Austin was one of the extraordinary generation of etchers and engravers who emerged in the early 1920s and knew their heyday between the wars. Brother of Robert, another once more famous, now almost equally neglected, Frederick Austin has evident ties with painters like Paul and especially John Nash, but there is something decidedly strange about his etched visions of country and seaside life. Just beneath the surface there is an almost medieval sense of human grotesqueness which allies him with Stanley Spencer, and it can hardly be fortuitous, though it is probably unconscious, that his most innocent-seeming landscapes bristle with classic sexual symbols: haystacks turn into phalluses, and the merest twig is likely to transform itself into a snake and wriggle away. His is no doubt a small voice, but quite individual and well worth listening to.

John Russell Taylor

Book review

An evening passed in uncommon company

The Churchillians
By John Colville
(*Weidenfeld & Nicholson*, £8.95)

Election to The Other Club was the greatest honour Churchill could confer on those rare birds, the Churchillians—men whom he considered estimable and entertaining, and with whom it was agreeable to dine. He once told an American colleague during the Suez crisis that even a declaration of war should not prevent them having a good meal together, and to read this book is to pass an evening with the politicians and Civil Servants, the soldiers and foreign statesmen in whose company he delighted and whose qualities largely complemented his own.

They were a varied bunch. Some, like F. E. Smith and the mischievous Lord Beaverbrook were pre-war cronies. Others were drawn from circles with whom Churchill had professional contact in his two periods of leadership, 1940-45 and 1951-55. They include wartime generals such as Monty, Alexander and Ismay; Churchill's own family, and those who worked for him behind the scenes—the buoyant Brendan Bracken and the physicist (and Swedish tennis champion) Professor Lindemann. All were loyal patriots who put duty before personal predelictions, few were reticent, and most played bezique.

John Colville, Churchill's Private Secretary in both administrations sits modestly beside him throughout *The Churchillians*. His privileged position gives him the authority to describe the Prime Minister's circle, which he does with insight and compassion—as quick to record any witty aside as he is to protect others, like the tongue-tied Wavell, from Churchill's unjust remarks.

Nevertheless, the author has already related much of the after-dinner reminiscing in *Action this day* and *Footprints in Time*. His personal recollections, pepped with the occasional snippet from his unpublished diaries, only flesh out the portraits he has already given us of these boon-companions. We discover, for instance, the actual amount of brandy that Churchill commanded the abstemious Lindemann to drink on these occasions was 32 cubic centimetres. More interesting are John Colville's indignant digressions which prove that Churchill neither sacrificed Coventry to preserve "Ultra" nor used Sir William Stephenson, the man called Intrepid, as a secret liaison with Roosevelt.

As the book goes on, it becomes apparent that many so-called Churchillians are only honorary members of the club. Some, like his over-critical doctor Lord Moran, sit uncomfortably because they had to ask to be elected. Others like Eden (who refused), R. A. Butler and Macmillan stand out because they are more than just stars in Churchill's constellation. As for De Gaulle and Truman, they are present mainly because of Churchill's interest in France and America.

Replenishing his glass, relighting his cigar and commanding the moment to remain, Churchill is the only element which binds these men of contrast, and brooding like Buddha, he looms over everything at the head of the table. Though he is moved by eloquence in the dining-room, his deep-throated growl is a reminder that he is his own master, to be assisted and advised—but not guided. His presence reduces protests and challenges to playful punches in the stomach—and personalities to "myrmidons". Deafened by his master's voice, John Colville's description of them is similarly muted. Each, whether it be Sir Edward Marsh or Sir Norman Brook, is "one of the dearest friends that Churchill ever had".

The Churchillians may be port which has been passed round before, but it is still very palatable, and John Colville is right in saying that its characters "record the achievements and failures of Britain and the United States in the first 60 years of the twentieth century". His anecdotal account of them is not so much a book about Churchillians but rather their relationship with Churchill, the most uncommon of denominators.

Nicholas Shakespeare

Last night's television

Did Darwin Get It Wrong?
BBC 2

Miles Kington

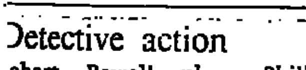
The public at large seems capable of taking in only a few major shifts in scientific opinion at a time. In recent years we have gained a dim idea of DNA genetic coding, of the way continental plates move about and threaten San Francisco and, more or less, of relativity. The latest theory to spread out into lay consciousness is the notion that evolution proceeds as a series of bursts of change followed by long periods of stasis, rather than as the smooth process envisaged by Darwin. (Thus going back to the Frenchman Lamarck, who preceded Darwin, suggesting that the evolution of ideas can work backwards.)

What emerged from last night's *Horizon* was a glittering array of American scientists was each allowed his twopenny worth, was in a general way that, yes, Darwin was probably wrong about the smoothness of evolution, and in a specific way that nobody really knows at all. Scientists seem to be studying smaller and smaller areas in greater and greater depth—the DNA of fruit flies, the gene changes of mice, bivalve molluscs of the Jurassic Age—leaving no one to find the links between the knowledge, like so many players in a game of Scrabble all using different languages. Over and over again the experts said that they were surprised by their findings, or could not yet see the connexion, or had failed to find what they were looking for, until one was glad of the cynicism of the French palaeontologist Félix Janvier who said that the acceptance of ideas depended largely on the authority of the man who expressed the ideas.

I am surprised then that nobody mentioned the theory put forward by H. L. Mencken. Pointing to the way organisms seemed sometimes highly successful, sometime total failures, he concluded that the world could not have been made by God, or a god, but by endless committees and subcommittees of gods, with all the bungling, delay and occasional triumphs that that entails. The bursts of change in evolution would, of course, be quite consonant with the regular tours of inspection of these committees. Personally, I was worried most by the expert on bivalve molluscs who said that the only evolutionary change he could spot in these Jurassic oysters was that they go gradually bigger and bigger, then become explosively extinct. Is man, too, not getting gradually bigger and bigger? Will orange juice and fluoride do for *us* before the bomb does?

Coward Show

Noel and Gertie, an evening which has been devised by Sheridan Morley and which traces the relationship of Noel Coward and Gertrude Lawrence, has a single performance at the Mayfair Theatre next Sunday. The cast includes Maria Aitken, William Blezard, Edward Fox, Sheridan Morley, Liz Robertson and Mark Wynter. The evening is in aid of the Combined Theatrical Charities.



Detective action

obert Powell plays Philip arlowe in *Private Dick*, a ay by Richard Maher and oger Mitchell, which opens at e Lyric Studio, Hammersmith, on April 21.

LPO/Chung
Festival Hall

William Mann

The Korean violinist Kyung-Wha Chung has been a favourite of audiences here for more than a decade, though she is still in her early thirties. She comes of a gifted musical family, and on Sunday played Sibelius's violin concerto with her younger brother, Myung-Whun Chung, as conductor of the London Philharmonic Orchestra.

For his purely orchestral items Mr Chung went to the Russian repertory, sensibly enough. Twenty years ago I used to receive copious letters at *The Times* from a reader who felt ethically constrained to assure me how impossible it was that easterners and westerner could ever understand one another's music. I have not yet the knowledge, and the nerve, to write about concerts of, say, Indian music as confidently as about Mozart; but the Chungs play western music with as much authority as European-born artists.

In point of geographical remoteness, the Russia of Rimsky-Korsakov and Rachmaninov is much closer to Korea than to Britain: but Mr Chung's flair for Russian music, as manifest in his firm, unruffled control of a large orchestra, has everything to do with his generation, and the spread of canned music during his formative years, nothing to do with the country in which he was born.

In all three items the conductor favoured a handsome, substantial string sound as basis for music with forwardly placed woodwind and enthusiastic brass—the latter too much encouraged in young Rachmaninov's climaxes for appropriate balance, to my way of thinking.

The revelation of Rachmaninov's first symphony, when it was exhumed long after his death, was its close derivation from Tchaikovsky (an excellent model, though the two composers were temperamentally quite dissimilar) and its emergent idiosyncrasies, phrases and turns of harmony already familiar in later works.

The fugal development in Rachmaninov's first movement went with splendid exhilaration, and taut, aggressive playing by the LPO, which marked the Scherzo too; the busy music of the finale perceptibly looked forward, in this reading, to the later American Rachmaninov, a kinship that had not struck me before, but which can be believed.

Three movements from Rimsky-Korsakov's opera, *The Invisible City of Kitezh*, were smartly coloured and formulated, like the excellent commercial art which they presage. The Sibelius concerto was given a cogent and keen reading, full of treasurable moments, rather too warmly committed, if you espouse Heifetz's view of the work, from which nobody has yet diverted my allegiance.

Jimmy McCracklin
100 Club

Richard Williams

One of the enduring attractions of the blues, not least to its exponents, is that it can be played as an ensemble music with a minimum of preparation; the rules are simple and familiar, allowing blues musicians of different generations and styles to communicate freely. That minimum of rehearsal, however, might have turned Jimmy McCracklin's London appearance on Sunday night from an enjoyable experience into a memorable one.

McCracklin is a Californian blues singer and pianist who was quite prominent during the 1950s and early 1960s, but found his activity curtailed by the rise of soul music, since when he has been cherished only by those admirers of the spontaneous small-band music of Joe Turner, Roy Brown and Wynonie Harris. His notable recordings include a 1957 rock and roll song called "The Walk", which still figures in the repertoire of young white rhythm and blues revivalists, and two mid-1960s tunes, "Every Night, Every Day" and "Think", of uncommon charm and durability.

He arrived in London accompanied by his tenor saxophonist, Wild Willie Moore, to be joined by three British musicians whose sympathy for his music could not disguise their lack of preparation. Plainly, however, McCracklin is long accustomed to such ad hoc encounters, and employed the force of his pleasant personality to pull the evening together.

He might be described, I suppose, as a more abrasive Fats Domino, with a voice which is rough and ready yet capable of a subtle suggestion of wry mournfulness and a driving piano style rooted in boogie-woogie. "Think" and "The Walk" were successfully negotiated, and for the rest of the set he concentrated on standards already familiar to his accompanists: Avery Parrish's "After Hours", a slow piano blues oozing funk, Lowell Fulson's "Reconsider, Baby" and Bill Doggett's "Honky Tonk".

The audience responded with particular animation to the antics of Moore, who dredged up and displayed with evident relish every trick in the rock and roll tenorman's bag: prolonged squeals, dirty honks, buzzsaw rasps and simple riffs. He even paraded among the audience at one point, and would probably have walked the bar in the hallowed style of Big Jay McNeely had the crush not forced him back.

Cleveland Quartet
Queen Elizabeth Hall

Paul Griffiths

I am quite sure the Cleveland Quartet needed no centenary excuse to make Bartók's second quartet the centrepiece of their recital on Sunday, for they are by style and inclination a group suited to this work like no other. They are, in the first place, very much a contrapuntal quartet, four well matched but utterly distinctive strands, ranging from the nervy, soaring leader to the firm, cool, almost bell-like cello. And so, given also their astonishingly exact ensemble, they have all the qualities needed to bring out the subtlety of interplay and the density of events in that Bartók quartet which is the most puzzling of the six, the least neatly tied up.

Even at one moment of unison there were four voices to be heard, and elsewhere the Cleveland let nothing pass unnoticed in the sinewy strength of their playing. Kodaly's description of the central movement as joyful seemed here very wide of the mark: the speed and precision of the dance, the sliced chords and the rapid spray of figures spoke rather of desperation, of a sensibility constantly on edge.

Similarly the finale was not merely sorrowful but eerie and glowing, the feeling close to parts of Bartók's contemporary ballet *The Miraculous Mandarin*.

The flanking performances of Mendelssohn and Beethoven also gained much from an unwillingness to relax with the superficial. Mendelssohn's D major quartet, the first of the op 44 set, became an extraordinarily tough and searching though still sprightly essay, a real vindication of those who would see this composer as one of the great masters of the string quartet. There were no easy pleasantries, nothing simply dextrous, but rather a work of urgency, and in the single passage where the players did pause to enjoy the texture, the trio of the minuet, their hesitation was full of strange and sinister echoes.

That they made Beethoven's op 135 quartet meaningfully complex was less surprising, and yet the performance was certainly no less remarkable. The Cleveland nicely drew attention to the ways in which Beethoven does everything in the wrong order, beginning the work as if in midstream, for example, and then proceeding to its start. They also made the slow movement begin like Bruckner and end like Mahler, gathering experience and irony as it passed, preparing for a finale where there were no simple answers, and no simple questions.

Some of the reviews on this page are reprinted from yesterday's later editions.

Bishop-Kovacevich
Queen Elizabeth Hall

Joan Chissell

Confounding all expectations, Stephen Bishop - Kovacevich chose not to make Bartók guest of honour at his weekend recital in the South Bank Sunday series. Instead he divided his programme between two other life-long loves, Beethoven and Schubert.

His approach to the late E major and C minor sonatas, Op 109 and Op 111, suggested that for the time being there is no danger of his subscribing to the current vogue for Beethoven on "period" instruments. Rather than evoking an elderly philosopher reconciling the irreconcilable, he set out to emphasize the extremity of the composer's mood contrasts in both works in a way that would have been impossible without the sheer decibels of a modern concert grand in bursts of turbulence, or its refinements and subtleties in visionary calm. In fact he played on the instrument for which the deaf composer was already writing in imagination.

In the E major sonata, the strength of his response to the first movement's climax at once made it clear that we were to meet a highly impressionable Beethoven. The Prestissimo could scarcely have been more swift or brusque. In the finale's variations he seemed determined that the benign calm of the theme should not go unchallenged in what followed, whether through yielding sentiment or brio, and there was a similarly warm, human heartbeat behind the concluding variations of the C minor sonata. Trills and more delicate textures were finely controlled and beautifully balanced and coloured. But in the stormy first movement of Op 111 Mr Bishop-Kovacevich sometimes allowed sonority to roughen. He was also unwise not to repeat its exposition. By this time Beethoven did not insert repeat signs unless he really meant them.

Schubert's late Drei Klavierstücke, D 946, again found him warmly responsive to the music's romance, and uncommonly positive in his way of making it his own. Entering a different world in each contrasting episode, he was exceptionally skilful in allowing dividing lines to melt at the moment of return. Tone and phrasing were intimately seductive throughout the Twelve Ländler, D 790, even if he did seem to forget that they hailed from the village green.

Football

Tottenham on collision course with the League over Ardiles

By Norman Fox
Football Correspondent

Cesar Menotti, the manager of the World Cup holders, Argentina, yesterday accentuated the difference of approach between his country and England when announcing that he wanted to assemble his next World Cup squad 60 days before the competition began in Spain on June 13, 1982. His decision could again cause Tottenham Hotspur to provoke the critical interest of the Football League because they are determined to release Osvaldo Ardiles before the domestic season ends.

While the home countries have to concentrate their World Cup preparations into a few days before the competition, Argentina plan a two-month period of training and practice games. Yesterday, Keith Burkinshaw, the Spurs manager, gave his approval to Mr Menotti's plans and, indirectly, confirmed that if England could arrange a long period of preparation he would be in favour.

The League have already expressed concern about the release of foreign players and were disturbed when Ardiles went to South America last Christmas to play in the "Gold Cup" tournament in Uruguay. If Ardiles should miss next season's final matches, perhaps including F.A. Cup and European fixtures, further repercussions are likely.

Mr Burkinshaw said: "I think the League have got to come to terms with the fact that he is our player and we do what we think is best for Tottenham Hotspur. If not having him for two months means we can have him for three years, then we will certainly agree to him leaving before the end of the season". Tottenham are currently negotiating a three-year contract with Ardiles who is expected to sign this week.

In widening his argument, Mr Burkinshaw said: "People in the game must realise that playing in the World Cup finals is the greatest thing that can happen to you whatever the country you play for, and we mustn't stand in a player's way. We have to go along with whatever England want on players and so why not over foreign players in the League."

Without going anywhere, the Aston Villa defender Allan Evans could miss some of the season's crucial championship games. On Saturday, in a memorably calamitous performance against Southampton, Evans not only scored an own goal and hit his own goalpost but had his name taken. Thus he passed 20 disciplinary points and the result could well be a suspension for two matches, one being against Villa's main championship rivals, Ipswich Town, on April 14.

With the first division so evenly balanced between Villa and Ipswich the absence of a regular player could be decisive, although Ipswich have not been able to shake off their challenger while the Villa centre forward, Withe, has been serving a two-game suspension.

Arsenal could be without their newest player, Nicholas, for two matches because he, too, passed 20 points when having his name taken during his first appearance for Arsenal against Norwich City nine days ago. Arsenal are still hoping to finish high enough in the first division to obtain a Uefa Cup place.

Charlton Athletic's prolific goalscorer, Hales, has passed 30 disciplinary points and is expected to miss matches against Rotherham and Huddersfield Town, who are second and third behind Charlton in the third division.

The West Ham United defender, Martin, who was injured against Bolton Wanderers on Saturday, did light training yesterday, and is still hoping to appear in the Football League Cup final replay against Liverpool tomorrow.

Southend raise their glasses

Dave Smith, the Southend United manager, acknowledged yesterday—with champagne—that his club had ensured promotion from the fourth division. The players will share a £40,000 bonus.

Southend, who were relegated last season and are the first to win promotion this year, have not lost at Roots Hall since February 1980, and have set club records for goalscoring and home wins this term. Mr Smith had enjoyed three promotions in six seasons—one at Mansfield and two at Southend.

Brussels, March 30. — Juan Lozano, a Spaniard, who has signed a three-year contract with Anderlecht, will become a Belgian citizen in exchange for a Porsche sports car.

Yesterday's results

FA YOUTH CUP: Semi-final round: second leg. Manchester United 1, Tottenham Hotspur 0 (Tottenham win 3—1 on agg.).
ALLIANCE PREMIER LEAGUE: Altrincham 2, Frickley 0.
SOUTHERN LEAGUE: Midland division. Bedford 1, Barry 0; Minehead 4, Cambridge City 2; Taunton 4, Redditch 2. Southern division: Ashford 3, Poole 2; Dover 1, Addlestone and Weybridge 1.
NORTHERN PREMIER LEAGUE: Matlock 3, Burton Albion 1. Cup: semi-final round, second leg: Workshop 1, Runcorn 0 (Runcorn win 3—2 on agg.)
ISTHMIAN LEAGUE: Premier division: Croydon 3, Barking 0; Hitchin Town 2, Dagenham 6.
B.U.S.F. TOURNAMENT: Cambridge 0, Northern Ireland 1; London 2, Oxford 2; U.A.U. II 0, Scotland 1; U.A.U. I 2, Wales 0.
YAOUNDE: Junior World Cup, qualifying round: Cameroun 1, Nigeria 0 (Cameroun win 3—2 on agg.).
BUENOS AIRES: World Youth Cup, play-off series: Argentina 2, Israel 0.
NORTH AMERICAN SOCCER LEAGUE: New York Cosmos 3, San Jose Earthquakes 0.
BAHRAIN: World Cup, Asian group two: Iraq 2, Syria 1.
GOIANIA: World Cup, South American group: Venezuela 0, Brazil 5.

Squash rackets

Taste of honey on bread and butter of change

By Rex Bellamy
Squash Rackets Correspondent

The 43rd British Open championship began yesterday in an unusually interesting way. A new location, Bromley, a new sponsor, Audi, and a record prize fund of £21,090 (for the main event alone) represented no more than the bread and butter of change. The odd things were the spectacle of two winners moving to an adjacent court to practice together, another winner going to hospital, and two men coming back from two games down to win matches that, on paper, should not have been half as much trouble.

The two men who decided that winning in straight games fell some way short of the exercise they like to pack into one day were, almost inevitably, Australians. Geoff Hunt, the holder, beat Mohamed Awad (brother of the seeded Gamal) and Glen Brumby was even more attentive to detail in disposing of John Cordeaux, who was on court long enough to remind us that he is a more than useful middle distance runner. So Hunt and Brumby decided to punish each other for a while, because they were still full of beans and could not keep the lid on.

Ricki Hill, another Australian, who has discovered that coaching in Berlin is not an entirely adequate substitute for competing in England, had an admirable win over Abbas Kaoud, showered and changed as if this was just another day at the office.

Then Hill suddenly found that he was reeling. He had not eaten all day and there was not enough sugar in him. He was sent to hospital for a check, but the nurses soon sent him back with more colour in his cheeks. Hill reckons another dose of the same treatment would do him no harm.

The men who ran into more trouble than the seedings and rankings said they should were that delightful shot-maker, Steven Bowditch (from Darwin, which is not the most renowned of squash nurseries) and "The Mighty Mouse", Ian Robinson, third in the English rankings.

Karimullah Khan, a left-hander with an intimidating forehand, recently beat Bowditch 9—7 in the fifth game at Munich, where Karimullah coaches. Yesterday Karimullah, an under-rated player, took the first tow games from Bowditch and, in the fourth, again had him on the ropes at 8-all. But Bowditch was just good enough to complete an all-Australian quartet at the top of the drawer.

Robinson's opponent was John Easter, who still looks the matinee idol who used to attract the crowd (especially the women) when he was opening the bowling for Oxford University and playing squash for Britain. But Easter, now based at City Squash in East London, has had 35 birthdays and, these days, jus tdoes a little coaching and competes only when there is a handy tournament.

His backhand volley is still a joy. But his bones and muscles and stamina are not what they wkere. He had some fun but Robinson worked him too hard. Afterwards Robinson looked a little puzzled. "I remember reading about him when I was 15 and should have been doing my schoolwork."

It was that kind of day—a lot of fun, a lot of good squash, in spite of the fact that the basic theme was a first round draw of 64 players from nine countries competing for the most famout title in the game and the kind of prize money that was no more than a dream when Jonah Barrington put professional squash on its feet 12 years ago.

FIRST ROUND: G. Hunt (Australia) beat Mohamed Awad (Egypt), [illegible]; G. Brumby (Australia) beat J. Cordeaux, [illegible]; P. Kenyon beat C. Wilstrop, [illegible]; R. Hill (Australia) beat A. Kaoud (Egypt), [illegible]; M. Somiee (Pakistan) beat P. Vence (Australia), [illegible]; S. Bowditch (Australia) beat K. Khan (Pakistan), [illegible], 9—4, 10—8; B. Brownlee (NZ) beat R. Holmes (SA), [illegible], 10—8; [illegible] Gul (Pakistan) beat A. Dwyer, [illegible]; Mohibullah Khan (Pakistan) beat C. Hewitson (SA), [illegible]; R. Norman (NZ) beat A. Soliman (Egypt), [illegible]; I. Robinson beat J. Easter, 8—10, [illegible]; L. Kvant (Sweden) beat S. Winstron (Sweden), [illegible], 10—8; M. Saad (Egypt) beat A. Naylor, [illegible]; G. Awad (Egypt) beat C. Blackwood (NZ), [illegible]; T. Wilkinson (Zimbabwe) beat J. Stockenberg (Sweden), [illegible]; F. Donnelly (Australia) beat Mohammed Yavis; Mohammed Yasin (Pakistan), 9—7, [illegible], 9—6.

Today's fixtures

Kick-off 7.30 unless stated.
FIRST DIVISION: Arsenal v Birmingham City; Leeds United v Ipswich Town; Manchester City v Leicester City; West Bromwich Albion v Everton.
SECOND DIVISION: Derby County v Swansea City; Orient v Queens Park Rangers (8.0); Wrexham v Luton.
THIRD DIVISION: Carlisle v Exeter; Rotherham v Burnley; Sheffield United v Barnsley.
FOURTH DIVISION: Bury v Doncaster; Wimbledon v Wigan Athletic.
SCOTTISH SECOND DIVISION: Stenhousemuir v Meadowbank.
ANGLO-SCOTTISH CUP: Final, second leg: Notts County v Chesterfield.
WELSH CUP: Semi-final, second leg: Newport v Hereford (7.15).
ALLIANCE PREMIER LEAGUE: AP Leamington v Northwich Victoria; Bangor v Worcester.
SOUTHERN LEAGUE: Midland division: Bedworth v Stourbridge; Bridgend v Kidderminster; Corby v Cheltenham; Merthyr Tydfil v Banbury. Southern division: Andover v Tonbridge; Basingstoke v Dorchester; Dartford v Hastings; Dunstable v Gosport; Folkestone v Salisbury; Hillingdon v Aylesbury; Waterlooville v Bognor Regis.
NORTHERN PREMIER LEAGUE CUP: Semi-final, second leg: Gainsborough v Marine.
NORTHERN PREMIER LEAGUE: Buxton v King's Lynn; Morecambe v Workington; Netherfield v Gateshead.
ISTHMIAN LEAGUE: Premier Division: Harlow v Dulwich; Sutton v Staines. First Division: Clapton v Walton and Hersham; Epsom v Oxford City; Hampton v Tilbury; Wembley v Hertford. Second Division: Worthing v Egham.
HITACHI CUP: Semi-Final Second Leg: Slough v Bishop's Stortford; Walthamstow Avenue v Hayes.
LONDON SENIOR CUP: Third Round, Third Replay: Cheshunt v Carshalton.
ATHENIAN LEAGUE: Alton v Redhill (6.0); Grays v Feltham; Harefield v Welling; Leyton Wingate v Edgware; Windsor and Eton v Fleet.
SURREY SENIOR CUP: Semi-Final Replay: Metropolitan Police v Woking.
RUGBY UNION: Bristol v Aberavon (7.0); Langholm v Selkirk; Neath v Penarth (6.30).
HOCKEY: British Universities tournament (at Blaendolau, Aberystwyth).

Latest European snow reports

	Depth (cm) L	Depth (cm) U	Piste	Conditions Off piste	Runs to resort	Weather (5 pm) —	°C
Andermatt	45	330	Fair	Heavy	Closed	Snow	3
Heavy wet snow everywhere							
Avoriaz	140	230	Good	Powder	Good	Snow	2
New snow on hard base							
Crans-Montana	30	100	Poor	Heavy	Good	Rain	—
Bare patches on all slopes							
Flaine	80	525	Good	Powder	Fair	Snow	6
Light powder on hard base							
Kitzbühel	20	130	Poor	Heavy	Closed	Snow	15
Slush on most slopes							
Les Arcs	70	180	Poor	Heavy	Poor	Rain	4
Slush on lower slopes							
Serre Chevalier	—	80	Good	Powder	Closed	Rain	7
New snow on upper slopes							
Tignes	120	245	Good	Heavy	Fair	Snow	2
New snow on firm base							
Verbier	10	230	Good	Good	Poor	Snow	6
Powder snow on wet base							
Wengen	30	130	Good	Heavy	Good	—	5
New snow on hard base							

In the above reports, supplied by representatives of the Ski Club of Great Britain, L refers to lower slopes and U to upper slopes. The following reports have been supplied by other sources:

SWITZERLAND

	Depth (cm) L	Depth (cm) U	State of Piste	Weather —	°C
Adelboden	—	120	Wet	—	5
Arosa	100	130	Spring	—	4
Braunwald	80	130	Spring	—	3
Chateau d'Oex	—	80	Wet	—	7
Davos	40	270	Spring	—	4
Disentis	30	180	Spring	—	3
Engelberg	20	200	Spring	—	7
Flims	50	140	Pwdr	—	8
Gstaad	20	80	Wet	—	4
Kandersteg	10	140	Wet	—	7
Klosters	30	230	Spring	—	6
Lenk	15	90	Wet	—	3
Lenzerheide	50	120	Spring	—	2
Les Diablerets	30	110	Wet	—	4
Mürren	70	130	Wet	—	3
Saas-Fee	10	80	Pwdr	—	5
St. Cergue	50	70	Spring	—	5
St. Moritz	—	60	Spring	—	2
Savognin	—	60	Wet	—	6
Zermatt	—	80	Pwdr	—	3

FRANCE

	Depth (cm) L	Depth (cm) U	State of Piste	Weather —	°C
Alpe d'Huez	30	300	—	—	—
Chamonix	10	450	—	—	—
La Clusaz	50	260	—	—	—
Les Deux Alpes	40	500	—	—	—
Megève	25	170	—	—	—
Méribel	30	305	—	—	—
Montgenèvre	15	70	—	—	—
St. Gervais	60	125	—	—	—
Superdévoluy	15	40	—	—	—
Val d'Isère	100	190	—	—	—

Marathon



Photograph by Keith Waldegrave

He wandered lonely as a crowd ... Trevor Wright echoing the solitariness of the long-distance front runner as he patters home third in the London marathon. This summer Britain's loss will be New Zealand's gain. He is emigrating.

Gone fishin' for London's next sea-of-faces race

By Paul Harrison

Christopher Brasher wants it to be known that he is going fishing in Wales, away from the telephone and the pressures of running the immensely successful inaugural London marathon.

His holiday will last four or five days, after which, as race director, he will be back at work masterminding next year's race, which has been provisionally fixed for Sunday, April 4.

Gillette, who put £50,000 into last Sunday's event, are apparently keen to continue their association; and there will be other sponsors.

When organization begins in earnest postmortems will be held on Sunday's event. There are areas for improvement. There were complaints about the train service from Greenwich, where the race began, and about facilities at the finish in Constitution Hill. "As far as we or the spectators were concerned, I wasn't perfect," Mr Brasher said.

The biggest criticism of the course was the number of twists and turns. The faster runners said the 112 turns slowed them down. Trevor Wright, from Wolverhampton and Bilston, who was third and the first Briton home, said: "Although the running conditions were ideal, there were too many twists and turns, which were very hard on the feet."

Mr Brasher acknowledged the problem, and promised that by next year the course will be considerably straighter. The New York marathon has only 22 turns.

Fred Lebow, organizer of that event, ran in Sünday's race and went away singing its praises: "The organization was superb, cosidering it was all done in a few months." He had learnt a lot and would be taking some ideas home to New York with him.

The next marathon there is in October, and the London organizers will see then if they can learn even more from the Americans. The cross-fertilization of ideas is seen as being mutually beneficial.

Apparently Mr Lebow was impressed by the organization of the London Transport baggage buses and by the results service provided by Olivetti. The London organizers, however, plan to witness the selection process in New York. "We have to get an absolutely fair entry system," Mr Brasher said.

Next year's race is expected to attract more of the world's top runners. Not one of the top 30 marathon runners was present last Sunday. "I am sure," Mr Brasher said, "that now they have seen the event, and seen how fast the course is, and the fact that it will be faster next year because it will be straighter, will mean that they will be there."

He would like to see the entry of Waldemar Cierpinski, the East German who has won the last two Olympic titles, and that of the leading Ethiopians. Next year's race will not clash with the world cross-country championships, as it did this time. That is one reason for the new date.

Wright to emigrate: Trevor Wright is emigrating to New Zealand with his wife, Rosemary, who is a New Zealander, and their two children. He recently ran a marathon in that country and he plans to continue his athletics career there. He won a marathon silver medal for Britain in the European championships 10 years ago.

A scenic route that leaves New York 26 miles behind

By Michael Coleman

The London marathon has arrived. It may not have the money that New York can muster but it has the setting. And judging by the turnout of runners (6,700), and the public's vocal support in the rain last Sunday, there is no reason why London should not be strongly challenging New York as the premier race on the marathon calendar.

New York had double the starters and infinitely more money to pay out in expenses, prizes, and, dare I say it, appearance money. Word was going round that a top North American runner was available for London through an agent at $30,000 and nobody in the know expressed surprise when questioned on it.

London can improve on its good name in several ways next year. Transport, changing facilities, toilet areas—improvements are vital here and this is where new sponsors can come in. Subsidiary contests can be run: best teams, best business teams, top doctor, policeman, journalist, and so on.

The feeding points staffed last Sunday by the six boroughs through which the race passed, could feature jazz, reggae or rock bands with a prize for the best. The event lends itself to becoming a proper folk festival. I recommend the race organizers to contact the Milk Marketing Board or Sealink to see how they sponsor cycle races throughout the country. The spin-off to a sponsor can be considerable.

As a competitor, I was annoyed at first at having to go down to Greenwich so early. Why not a Hyde Park start with the race wholly contained in the centre of the capital? By going to Greenwich Park, however, I got the impact. This is a tour of London, from suburbia, through dockland, the City, to Westminster. It is unrivalled.

By deleting Greenwich we would have missed the old Observatory, the Cutty Sark and Tower Bridge. Then the detour into the East End and the Isle of Dogs. What a depressing area, you might say. But where else would you get *Keep right on to the end of the Road* and London humour ("You're nearly there, mate, keep going") which make you realize that all the blood, toil and sweat are really worth it?

That fearful stretch of cobbles in front of the Tower, passing, appropriately enough, Traitors' Gate—how to avoid it? But why do so? This is London. The embankment, the sweep of the river rising majestically to Big Ben, Parliament and its Square: it gets better and better and makes New York resemble, to coin a football phrase, "a load of rubbish". St James's Park opens and the Palace will soon be in sight. Scenically, historically, London is impossible to beat.

Was it a race or just a run? It was a race. Television cameras pick out and linger on the unusual: the waiter, the convict, the woman who started 20 minutes late and kept going, the oldest man in the race and so on.

The staged dead-heat was unfortunate, but it underlined the point that there was no big financial prize at stake, as elsewhere. And it reinforced the impression that it was just a fun run when all the leading times disprove this and prove instead that it was a race.

To ITN, whose news broadcasts through Sunday evening, kept referring annoyingly to the more "serious-minded" runners at the front, I extend this invitation: get up at 5 am, join the race next time and see how serious-minded you can be at the back.

Boxing

The fight that launched a new British flagship

By Srikumar Sen
Boxing Correspondent

The heavyweight ship Great Britain, deserted by her master John L. Gardner, was launched on her trials and tribulations after taking on board a new skipper, Gordon Ferris, of Enniskillen. Billy Aird, a London publican, who had been seeking to take charge for 10 years, gave up his quest for the British title when he was beaten at the Aston Villa Sports Centre last night by 148 points to 147, which meant that Ferris won six rounds, Aird four and five were even.

It was a mauling affair for most of the 15 rounds, and it does not seem that the British heavyweight scene will progress at a rate of knots, and indeed may run aground at any time. The two men remained at close quarters most of the way, and in between there were flashes of crisp punches from both, perhaps a little more from Aird.

But they grappled and boxed and made heavy weather of the trip. Aird suffered a cut as early as the second, but thanks to his corner men that left eye gave him no more trouble. Then in the twelfth, his other eye was cut, as was Ferris's left. Aird, who had taken most of the punishment until then, suddenly came to life and tried to carry the fight to the Irishman. This was his best period.

During the minute's rest, he even had time to watch the woman with the round numbers going by —to the admonishment of his cornerman, who said: "Listen to me!" Anyway, he came out refreshed, hitched up his shorts and traded blows with the Ulsterma

So carried away was Aird in g ing to become, at the age of the oldest man to win a Brit title that he received a warni for the use of his head. It w easy to lipread Harry Gibbs, t referee, who said: "Once mo and you are out".

Throughout the bout, Ferris ways looked the more danger and always seemed on the point putting Aird away but someh his punches did not carry enou power and, every time, A swayed out of trouble and bo back. In the early rounds, t Londoner made the mistake trying to bore in to the Irishma stomach like a little boy trying get at his dad, and suffered consequences of that cut eye.

Often the Irishman backed h up against the ropes and pumm led with two hands but, as he w drawn closer and closer towa Aird, his punches began to l their power and his corner show to him to step back, to stand and finish him off. Ferris, thou was not able to control the mo ment of his gloves as his cor wanted him to and several ti in the middle rounds Aird allowed to escape.

To Aird's credit, it must be s that he boxed his way ri through to the 15th round and the end, as he swayed and duck he seemed to be telling his lowers (whom he had brought coaches paid for by him) that could still box a bit when wanted to. But, Ferris was too ahead for the Londoner to m any impression in the clos rounds.

McKenzie is expecting the worst against Mittee

By Srikumar Sen

When Clinton McKenzie, of Croydon, defended his light-welterweight title against Des Morrison at Bethnal green it was hailed "the fight of the year", even though the year was only a couple of weeks old. Now, with the daffodils just about to start their spring show McKenzie is in for another "fight of the year" when he meets Sylvester Mittee, of Bethnal Green, tonight, at the plush Wembley Conference Centre. You can put your money on that.

McKenzie, who knows only hard contests, realises that even though Morrison easily beat Mittee last year, victory does not follow naturally. Mittee hits hard. He looked unbeatable, a leather-man who gave others a belting, until that meeting with Morrison. The veteran staggered him early, and Mittee remained deflated for the rest of the bout. But he is young enough to have learned his lesson helped along by a good talking to from Terry Lawless.

McKenzie, who like Mittee, represented Britain in the Montreal Olympics, where he gave a good account of himself against Sugar Ray Leonard, has emerged from a bad patch with his morale high; and his Lonsdale Belt safely locked away in a cupboard. Ordinarily, the naturally heavier champion should prove too experienced for the challenger. But there are two big ifs against McKenzie: a tendency to cut around the eyes, and more important, his stamina.

Both could work against when Mittee starts to throw bombs. If the challenger can out the champion early, and up his workrate in the l rounds, he will win. Whate happens, even if the champ has solved his oxygen proble McKenzie will have to go thro some desperate moments to tain his title.

Victory for Magri: Santos Lac who won the WBA flyweight in South Africa on Saturday, given the British and Europ champion, Charlie Magri, a bo the Press Association rep Only three months ago Magri b the Argentine, at Wembley now Laciar is champion of world after stopping Pe Mathebula in seven rounds.

Terry Lawless, Magri's ma ger, said: "That result re pleased me because now peo have got to accept Charlie a world contender. Laciar can really call himself world cha ion until he has beaten Charli

Laciar has said that he is p pared to let Magri meet him the title, but Mr Lawless co ments: "He might not fancy return with Charlie now, but have got to be hopeful of gett a chance next season.

"If the WBA were stron they would make Charlie numb one contender and order Lac to fight him. Fortunately Cha is a big draw but whether Lac will agree to fight him here doubtful," Mr Lawless said.

Tennis

Miss Navratilova is added to elite field

New York, March 31.—Martina Navratilova, who won the Avon championships on Sunday, and Hana Mandlikova, of Czechoslovakia complete the field of four for the $200,000 Clairol tournament from April 4 to

They will join Chris Lloyd and Andrea Jaeger. Miss Mandlikova was named to replace the injured Tracy Austin, who won the invitation tournament last year.

Miss Navratilova, aged 24, has lost only two of her 30 matches this year. Miss Jaeger, the beaten Avon finalist, received her biggest pay cheque—$52,000—in losing only her third match this year. Miss Navratilova also won the women's championships in 1978 and 1979 but lost to Miss Austin in last year's final.

She beat Miss Austin with her aggressive net game, which forced her opponent to try to pass her or lob for most of the match. The crowd of 14,688 at Madison Square Garden was the largest for a women's indoor tournament.

Miss Navratilova committed twice as many unforced errors as Miss Jaeger—34 to 17—but she hit 38 outright winners against 15. She also played a good tactical match, drawing Miss Jaeger to the net with drop shots and then passing her.

Bettina Bunge, who is 17, won third place and $30,000 when she defeated her West German Federation Cup colleague, Sylvia Hanika, 5—7, 6—4, 3—2. Miss Hanika, aged 21, who lost to Miss Jaeger in a three-set semi-final, said she retired because of a cold that had bothered her all week and an upset stomach.

The United States and Czechoslovakia will meet in a quarter-final round Davis Cup match from July 10 to 12 at the USTA national tennis centre in New York City, it was announced today. It will be the first Davis Cup meeting between the two nations. The United States has won 26 titles, including 1978 and 1979: Czechoslovakia won the championship for the first time last year.—AP and Reuter.

Table tennis

Club interest but no sponsor for national league

By Richard Streeton

Twenty new clubs have shown interest in joining the English national table tennis league next winter and the organizers will discuss a revised format for the lower divisions when they meet on April 11.

After two years the English association have not been able to find a sponsor for the league. To keep costs down the lower divisions are bound to remain on a regional basis but an enlarged system of play-offs might be arranged to help decide promotion.

This season's two regional second division winners, City of Newcastle and Bristol Cashmans, will meet on a home and away basis before the end of April to settle who takes the place of Dunlop Sports, the relegated first division team. Newcastle, the only league team to complete their programme unbeaten, will start favourites. This weekend they won 5—4 against Norton.

Chu Van Que, a former North Vietnamese international, and one of the boat people refugees, who has been Newcastle's leading player, was defeated, for the first time this year, by Tony Boasman. Chu was 16—8 ahead in the third game and later 20—16 but then lost the final six points.

Boasman, a former English junior international who deserted table tennis for golf for a time, won by 21—18, 18—21, 22—20. Chu is helping the English team this week at their world championship training camp, giving them practice against the penholder style which they will meet when playing Asian opponents in Yugoslavia.

Soham had already clinched the championship and Paul Day helped them finish on a good note with a 6-3 win against Sealink Milton Keynes. Day beat Douglas Johnson, his world championship team colleague, and Richard Yule, of Scotland, to finish with 27 wins in 28 rubbers. His only league defeat came against Graham Sandley last October when Ellenborough inflicted Soham's one reversal.

Ellenborough's 9-0 victory against Dunlop enabled them to snatch second place in the final table from Macleans Maidenhead on the sets' countback. Macleans won 5—4 against Ormesby.

FIRST DIVISION: Soham 6, Sealink Milton Keynes 3; Ormesby 4, Macleans Maidenhead 5; Filnws Cranleigh 6, Unity 3; Ellenborough 9, Dunlop Sports 0. Second division north: Norton 4, City of Newcastle 5; South West Durham 2, Ormesby II 7; Tarmac Wolverhampton 2, Salford Select 7; Billingham J. D. White 2, Stockton Select 7. Second division south: Generation 6, Gunnersbury Triangle 3; Bristol Cashmans 8, Prudential Ibis 1; March 3, Seagulls 6.

Rackets

Cowdrey serves up success for Tonbridge

By Roy McKelvie

Clifton and Tonbridge will meet in the final of the schools rackets championship at Queen's Club today. Graham Cowdrey, the youngest of three brothers, stole the show on a exciting and dramatic day by winning 27 consecutive points while in hand for Tonbridge against Malvern.

Cowdrey and Reiss, of Tonbridge, beat Titchener and Spencer, of Malvern, by 14-18, 3—15, 15—4, 16—13, 15—3, 17—14 in the first of the semi-final round matches. Malvern were leading by 2—1 in games and 13—1 when Cowdrey went into the service box. The score was 12—0 in the fifth game when he was put out.

By no means all his points came from service winners but the number increased as the Malvernians especially Titchener who had begun the match brilliantly, became more and more frantic. Adding to Malvern's misery was the loss of two game points for the sixth game at 14—9. On the second of these Titchener having recovered some of his poise, hit the top of the board with an easy shot.

This was a mental trial of strength between Titchener, the better rackets player, and Cowdrey, the more solid. Both players live on their nerves and Cowdrey's proved the stronger.

RESULTS: Schools championship semi-final round: Tonbridge (G. Cowdrey and P. Reiss) beat Malvern (D. N. Spencer and P. Titchener), 14—18, 3—15, 15—4, 16—13, 15—3, 17—14; Clifton (P. Morris and T. Robins) beat Wellington (J. Alexander and R. Mallinson), 15—8, 4—15, 9—15, 15—10, 15—6, 11—15, 15—7.

SECOND PAIRS: Semi-final round: Malvern (R. Shenkman and R. Mason) beat Charterhouse (R. Thompson and S. Klepper), 15—11, 15—3, 8—15, 15—5, 15—5; Clifton (D. Hayes and J. Fenely) beat Wellington (G. D'Oyly and S. Loun), 15—5, 15—5, 8—15, 15—12, 15—8.

Rugby League

Council gives two brawling clubs a slap on the wrist

By Keith Macklin

While Huddersfield and Wigan may feel a sense of shame at having been found guilty of creating a brawl in the match at Fartown, the directors of the two clubs may believe that their punishment is much more a slapping of the wrist than a public flogging.

Yesterday the executive committee of the Rugby League met for two and a half hours in Leeds to pass judgment on the notorious contest which resulted in six men, three from each side, being sent off and a considerable amount of unwelcome publicity for the game, not least on ITV.

The committee was able to study the evidence of the TV videotape yesterday, and afterwards a four-point decision was announced. Wigan were fined £500 and Huddersfield £250 for taking part in a brawl which led to the sending-off of the first four alleged culprits. Wigan's fine was doubled, not because they were the worst offenders but because they have already been fined £100 for taking part in a brawl with Warrington in a pre-season "charity" match.

Both clubs were given what, in courts of law, would be regarded as suspended sentences for bringing the game into disrepute. They were fined £1,000 each, but the sting was taken out of this judgment by the fact that it is suspended to the end of the season and is unlikely to be applied if the clubs keep their noses clean.

The third point made by the executive committee was that the three officials, the referee, Vincent Moss, and his touch judg should be called before a spec sub-committee to explain th view of the unsavoury inciden

Fourthly, the committee reco mended to the Rugby Leag Council that attention should paid to the firm imposition future of a rule which allows t disciplinary committee to call judgment any players involved such violent matches as the Hu dersfield v Wigan game, wheth or not those players have be dismissed from the field by t referee.

Cardiff City have sent a writt application to the Rugby Leag asking for inclusion in the seco division next season. Since the has been no time for a Rug League delegation to visit Nin Park, and the Cardiff inquiry in its initial stages, it is high unlikely that a decision will made by the council meeti tomorrow.

Despite bursts of optimism, t application by Carlisle United st has to face the scrutiny of t council, which contains represen atives from all the clubs, some them may see their vested interes threatened by another Fulham.

Cardiff have stated that the have approached David Watkin the former captain of the Wels Rugby Union side, a British Lion an international at both codes an a prolific points scorer during hi Rugby League career to act their "front man". There i talk of other Rugby Union forme stars, like Barry John, hitchin their wagons to the Cardiff ve ture.

Rugby Union

Youngs to provide Melville with an early examination

By David Hands

Nick Youngs, the Bedford scrum half, and England's replacement this championship season, will lead the England Under-23 side to play the English Students at Bath tomorrow evening. Places for players from both sides will be beckoning in the Under-23 XV which will play the Netherlands at Leicester on April 11; selection for that game will be announced on Thursday.

For Youngs, however, there will be the prospect of a duel with Nigel Melville, on whom the students had first claim. Melville is regarded by many, not least by his club, Wasps, as being the long-term answer to the England scrum half position and it is by no means out of the question that England may choose him for the senior tour to Argentina in May —although Melville, like Marcus Rose at Cambridge, has important examinations in the offing.

One of Melville's club colleagues, Nick Stringer, has also made ground rapidly this season, becoming the first of the current crop of young, home-grown Wasps backs to be recognized by the Under-23 selectors. Stringer began this season as a centre with Fullerians, joining Wasps in October. A powerful player at 6ft and 14½st, he is only 20 and in the process of learning his trade as a full back, but his prospects look promising. He shares the goal-kicking duties for his club with Rob Hughes and the Under-23s may call on him and Peter Stiff in that respect tomorrow.

Rosslyn Park will be delighted to see two of their young prop forwards, Paul Curtis and Simon Henderson, involved at Bath. Curtis is the first of their former colts players to win an under-23 cap and Henderson, studying at Durham University, played for Surrey in their county championship semi-final defeat against Northumberland. He also had a splendid game on the winning side in the UAU final against Loughborough University, who, slightly surprisingly, have no representatives in the student XV.

The students, who will be led by the Liverpool Polytechnic flanker, Ken Moss, have gambled in their back row by playing Francis Emeruwa, from Manchester University. Emeruwa, educated at Emanuel School, is in his first year at Manchester, but has shown exceptional form in the UAU championship; now his raw talent will be tested by a knowledgeable under-23 back row trio and scrum half.

There are 10 replacements, who will do duty for both sides, and among them is the Moseley stand-off, Michael Perry, who has recovered from an indifferent start to the season to play well in Moseley's cup run.

ENGLAND UNDER-23: N. Stringer (Wasps); D. Trick (Bath), T. Buttimore (Coventry), R. Bodenham (Blackheath), A. Swift (Swansea); P. Williams (Orrell), N. Youngs (Bedford, captain); P. Curtis (Rosslyn Park), M. Dixon (Fylde), S. Ashmead (Gloucester), P. Stiff (Bristol), C. Butler (Harlequins), J. Gadd (Gloucester), T. Allchurch (Cambridge University), S. Hughes (Royal Marines).

ENGLISH STUDENTS: I. Unsworth (Hull University); S. Smith (Lancaster University), I. Aitchison (Liverpool Poly), J. Parr (Chester College), L. Williams (London University); N. Chesworth (Durham University), N. Melville (North London Poly); S. Henderson (Durham University), D. Bennett (Bristol Poly), A. Rathlin (UWIST), M. Foulkes-Arnold (Leicester Poly), C. Pinnegar (Exeter University), K. Moss (Liverpool Poly, captain), F. Emeruwa (Manchester University), A. Dun (London University).

REPLACEMENTS: P. Ford (Gloucester), R. Fellow (Wasps), M. Perry (Moseley), S. Baker (Gloucester), C. Hocking (Plymouth Albion), A. Steele (Nottingham University), T. Harris (Exeter), M. Rose (Borough Road College), R. Stevenson (Sale), M. Teague (Gloucester).

For the record

Basketball

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION: Chicago Bulls 101, Indiana Pacers 97; Boston Celtics [illegible]

HONGKONG: World club championship, Asian qualifying round: China [illegible]; Philippines [illegible]; Hongkong 72, [illegible] 81.

Golf

EDGBASTON: Schools championship qualifying round: [illegible]

Ice hockey

NATIONAL LEAGUE: New York Islanders [illegible], Philadelphia Flyers [illegible]; Chicago Black Hawks [illegible], Winnipeg Jets [illegible]; Pittsburgh Penguins [illegible], Quebec Nordiques [illegible]; Montreal Canadiens [illegible], Colorado Rockies [illegible]; Winnipeg Jets [illegible], Minnesota North Stars [illegible]; Vancouver Canucks [illegible]. Current standings: [illegible]

ORTISEI: World championship: Italy 6, East Germany [illegible]; Switzerland 4, Japan 5.

Rugby Union

EAST MIDLANDS CUP: Final: [illegible]
SCHOOLS MATCH: Guernsey Youth 4, Christ [illegible]

Hockey

BUENOS AIRES: Women's world championship, group A: Argentina 2, [illegible]

PRAGUE: Friendly international: Czechoslovakia 5, Sweden 1.

Tennis

GRAND PRIX STANDINGS: [illegible]

FRANKFURT: WCT tournament: first round: [illegible]

Curling

LONDON: [illegible]

Wrestling

TOLEDO: [illegible]

Rifle shooting

BISLEY: [illegible]

Badminton

England could separate top double pair

By Richard Streeton

[illegible]

Cricket

The pitch to last 'until the end of the world' begins to break up

From John Woodcock
Cricket Correspondent
Antigua, March 30

England will need to bat all tomorrow, and well into Wednesday afternoon if they are to save the fourth Test match here against West Indies. At present, with these two days left, they are 190 runs behind with all their second innings wickets in hand.

To be frank, it is hard to see their doing it. Despite the groundsman's prediction that it would last "until the end of the world" and although the West Indian tailenders were able to run riot on it yesterday evening the pitch is beginning to show signs of wear. The bounce is not as true as it was—and, even if it were England's batting record gives no cause for optimism. Only twice in their last 15 Test innings against this West Indian attack have they survived for much more than a day.

In an effort to turn the tide Willey is to bat this time at number five, rather than at number seven, where he has played in 15 of his last 16 Test innings. Twice in the present series he has been left high and dry, and in England last summer he was twice undefeated when the end of a Test match came—with 62 to his credit at Old Trafford, and 100 at The Oval. The experiment, though it has been some time coming, must be worth making.

Although England had a miraculously good morning yesterday, when they took five wickets for 65 runs, by the evening, West Indies had reasserted an overwhelming superiority. From mid-afternoon onwards there was nothing for the comfort of all those English supporters still following the side round, except the survival through the closing minutes of Boycott and Gooch.

As Holding and Croft were adding 66 for the last wicket, England lost all control. It is on these occasions that the lessons learnt over the years go through the window—when line is lost and length forgotten.

What do the following bowling figures for the West Indian innings of 468 for nine declared tell us, or fail to tell us?

Dilley 25—5—99—2; Botham 37—6—127—4; Stevenson 32—5—111—3; Emburey 34—12—84—0; Willey 21—7—31—0; Gooch 2—2—0—0; Boycott 3—2—5—0.

They give no idea, to start with, how well Emburey bowled. He had two chances missed, both eminently catchable, and except when Richards was hitting him for three fours in one over he gave nothing away. What holds him back is the absence in his armoury of a really good "arm ball"—the outfloater, that is, which the batsman expects to turn from the off, but instead swings a little from the leg.

The great off-spinners of recent years, such as Laker, Titmus and Tayfield, who took so many of their wickets with this ball which they drifted away from the right-hander, would have bowled without a slip much less often than Emburey does, simply because of the catches they had taken for them there off the outside edge. In 76 overs Emburey has not, in fact, taken a Test wicket since Trinidad, when he had five for 124. Even so, England invariably look the part when he is bowling.

Dilley is coming on. He had to face the full brunt of Richards's initial onslaught on Saturday when 44 of West Indies' first 45 runs came in boundaries, but he keeps at it better now than he did in Australia last winter. He is stronger now than he was then, and on three of the last four occasions he has bowled at Richards (in the second one-day international, in this Test and the last he has got him out. Because of the close fields which they start with, and the speed of the ball off the bat, fast bowlers are seldom inexpensive, and against lesser opposition Dilley will find some easier pickings to help him.

In spite of taking heavy punishment yesterday evening, Stevenson has had the good sense here to concentrate on length and direction, rather than trying to bounce the batsmen out. His three for 111 in 33 overs is not to be sniffed at. For a Test bowler, though, he does, at his pace, look very plain, and against the present West Indian attack he can hardly be called an all-rounder, at any rate on the evidence so far.

Like Emburey, Stevenson says the ball that bowled him on Friday started outside the sightscreen, due to Croft's habit of delivering so near to the return crease. Having failed to sight the ball, they neither of them played a stroke.

Being a captain who tends to over-bowl rather than under-bowl himself, Botham had more overs in this West Indian innings than anyone. He bowled too short again, I thought, though it was with short balls that he accounted yesterday morning for Mattis and Murray. By taking three wickets in five balls, Botham suddenly put England back in the game.

"We so nearly had them", he said, rather sorrowfully, last night. So we did, and no one had more to do with this than the captain, without generating the horse power of his best days. To do that, I am convinced he will have to take off some weight.

The bowlers to be given the least work were the most economical—Willey, Gooch and Boycott. It must surely have been worth allowing Willey an over or two yesterday, certainly after the initiative had been lost. As for Boycott and Gooch, they never seem to me to be sufficiently used, if only to bring a change of pace and type.

Since being England's most successful bowler in the first of the one-day internationals, and although he has a reputation as a stand-breaker, Gooch has hardly turned his arm over. In two and a half Test matches he has bowled four overs.

To a lesser extent the same applies to Boycott, who has had only three overs on the tour. If one levels a criticism at Botham for this—for not making the most of strictly limited resources—it applies to most modern captains. One of the consequences of one-day cricket has been to sterilize the tactics of the game in general.

SCORES: England 271 (P. Willey 102 not out, C.E.H. Croft 6 for 74) and 7 for no wicket; West Indies 468 for 9 dec. (I.V.A. Richards 114, E. H. Mattis 71, C. G. Greenidge 63, C. H. Lloyd 58, M. E. Holding 58 not out, I. T. Botham 4 for 127).

Racing

Tree has a new theory about Known Fact

By Michael Phillips
Racing Correspondent

Although his appearance belies it, Jeremy Tree has been around longer than most trainers. He received his licence to train under Jockey Club rules in 1952 and began his fine career in Newmarket at Lansdowne House with 21 horses. But after only a year there he moved to Beckhampton House, which with its famous gallops lies west of Marlborough alongside the A4.

Tree went there with 24 horses, the best of which was Double Red, who was to win the Goodwood Cup for him two years later. Now he has almost three times that number in his care. In those early days his strike rate clearly impressed Jock Whitney, the American Ambassador to the Court of St James, who was a self-confessed Anglophile and a lover of racing in this country. Mr Whitney asked Tree to train for him in 1958 and his horses have been at Beckhampton ever since.

With 18 horses in the yard Mr Whitney's support is as unflagging as ever, but this year his numerical backing for the master of Beckhampton has been surpassed by that of Khaled Abdullah, a Saudi Arabian prince, who has developed such a taste for English racing in the past few years. This season Mr Abdullah has 20 blue-blooded thoroughbreds there and they include Known Fact, who won the 2,000 Guineas last spring (albeit on the disqualification of Nureyev) and the Gimcrack Stakes winner, Bel Bolide.

Recently Mr Abdullah turned down what must have been a colossal offer from the United States for Known Fact. Last autumn Known Fact beat Kris in the Queen Elizabeth II Stakes at Ascot and Kris was subsequently syndicated for £100,000 a share to give him an overall valuation of £4m. Mr Abdullah will not be diverted from his intention to stand Known Fact on his relatively newly-acquired stud in Berkshire.

That is something that European breeders will applaud heartily, because Known Fact has the pedigree and the exquisite physical conformation to match his excellence on the racecourse. The Lockinge Stakes at Newbury on May 16 is his first objective. After that his connexions are likely to experiment and try him at a mile and a quarter, probably in the Prince of Wales's Stakes at Royal Ascot in the hope that the outcome will justify a crack at the Eclipse Stakes at Sandown at the beginning of July.

If that experiment fails, Known Fact can always revert to a mile. There was a time when his trainer thought that he would never stay beyond a mile, but he has revised his opinion now that his horse has become so much more relaxed both at home and on the racecourse.

Anyone who relishes the odd dabble in the ante-post market could do a lot worse than snap up the 10-1 that the Tote are currently offering against Bel Bolide winning the Free Handicap, which they sponsor.

Unlike pot plants horses cannot be forced. Nature plays a big part in deciding when a horse is ready to give of his best no matter what any trainer may do or think and already Bel Bolide looks very forward indeed. Anyone expecting him to have changed shape noticeably during the winter will be disappointed. He will always be the greyhound type of a horse, but handsome is as handsome does.

I will be surprised if he is not fit to run the race of his life in the Free Handicap at Newmarket on April 15. Bel Bolide was given only 8st 8lb by the handicapper and I know that his trainer is adamant that he is not that much behind the best of his age. Tree has already won the Free Handicap with a filly called Lyric Dance and Ros Rock.

Sharpo and Shining Finish were other members of the string who looked exceptionally well and who stood out in my memory after our tour of the yard. Sharpo may not be blessed with the best of hocks, but still they propelled him fast enough to win the William Hill Sprint Championship at York last August. One look at his physique now can only encourage the view that more successes are in the pipeline.

By running in the Palace House Stakes at Newmarket on 2,000 Guineas day and then again in the Temple Stakes at Sandown Park which he also won last year, Sharpo will be able to avoid clashing with the racehorse of the year, Moorestyle. When he heard that Moorestyle may be trained to race over a mile halfway through the season Tree's eyes lit up. He is only too aware of the fact that Robert Armstrong's colt will be extremely hard to outpace in sprints with the evidence of last year's Prix de l'Abbaye comparatively fresh in the mind.

Plenty of life left in Wightman's old dogs

By Michael Seely

Age had its fling at Leicester yesterday when that remarkable nine-year-old gelding, The Goldstone, showed a devastating turn of finishing speed to win the day's most valuable race, the Welford Handicap Stakes. Trained by Bill Wightman and ridden by Ken Butler, The Goldstone was recording his first success on the Flat for three seasons.

"These old geldings are like most of us who are getting on", Wightman said. "They can find a bit of form occasionally—but not too often." However, despite his starting price of 20-1, The Goldstone was not unfancied.

The whole affair was a triumph for the old brigade. Wightman himself has been plying his trade with considerable skill and acumen since 1937 and has held a licence longer than any other trainer. Butler, 18 years a work rider with Les Hall until he joined Wightman just before Christmas, was having his first success in the saddle since 1974. The jockey quite rightly parried impertinent questions about his age, but admitted to being on the wrong side of 40.

"He is the best work rider I have ever known," Wightman said. And despite his lack of opportunities Butler rode a perfectly timed race yesterday.

Just to complete the saga The Goldstone was led proudly away from the unsaddling enclosure by Ken Wright, who has been with Wightman for more years than either man cares to remember. "Ken rode a winner for me when he was an apprentice", the trainer said, "and his wife cooks my breakfast every morning."

Another south country trainer, Guy Harwood, continued in sparkling form when Greville Starkey rode the odds-on favourite, Ridgefield, to a cheekily gained victory in the Simon de Montfort Maiden Stakes. This victory emphasized the strength of Harwood's three-year-old team as not only had Tender Angus romped home at Doncaster on Saturday, but Ray Charles also won the last race at Folkestone yesterday.

The Pulborough trainer has Recitation and Go Leasing engaged in Saturday's 2,000 and 1,000 Guineas Trials next Saturday, but will run neither horse if the going is too soft. "Recitation's alternative target is the Greenham Stakes at Newbury", Harwood said. "And the colt has been working in tremendous style recently".

The new partnership of Peter Walwyn and Joe Mercer started on a high note when Disco, the Lambourn trainer's first runner of the season, justified 11—8 favouritism in the Loddington Stakes. Disco is a lazy horse and Mercer had to drive the three-year-old right out to resist the sustained challenge of Cavendish.

At Leicester this afternoon an interesting race is promised for the Burton Overy Stakes between Belloc Grain Race and Six Mile Bottom. There is little to choose between the trio judged on the formbook, but with Ryan Price's horses having already demonstrated their well being Belloc may just have the edge over Grain Race.

Other possible winners at the meeting are Lord Wimpy in the Keythorpe Maiden Stakes and Ski's Double who runs in the Holwell Handicap. Both horses finished second at Doncaster and their superior fitness may gain them the day.

Royal Mail backed: Ladbrokes have laid Royal Mail to lose £24,000 at 20-1 and he is now down to 16-1 with that firm for the Grand National. Spartan Missile and Rubstic head the market at 7-1, with Aldaniti 12-1 and Zongalero 14-1.

Spartan Missile was heavily backed with Corals yesterday. One punter from Kidderminster laid a cash bet of £1,300 to win at 7-1 and the champion hunter is now their 6-1 clear favourite. Corals also report backing for Aldaniti, who was laid to take out £40,000 at 14-1. He is now 11-1.

For Thursday's Topham Trophy the firm have installed Hot Tomato as favourite at 11-2, with Magic Tipp on 6-1, Grand Cru 13-2, Selby 8-1 and Blackwater Bridge 9-1.



Azd wins the Kingsnorth Handicap at Folkestone.

STATE OF GOING (official): Sandown Park: Soft. Ayr: Heavy. Leicester: Soft. Tomorrow: Worcester: Abandoned waterlogged. Catterick Bridge: Good to soft.

Golf

Miss Bradley goes to top of money tree

Costa Mesa, California, March 30.—Pat Bradley had a five-stroke victory in a Ladies Professional Golf Association tournament here yesterday.

She finished with a 70, one under par, for a total of 284 to collect the first prize of $26,250. It was her eighth victory in eight years on the LPGA circuit.

Debbie Massey came second and earned $17,150. Miss Bradley, who finished second in the previous two tournaments, has earned $69,971 so far this year and leads the money list for the first time in her career.

"This is the best stretch I've had in eight years on tour and my attitude right now is very, very good", she said. "I just played my own game and waited it out."

Only Miss Blalock, who was three under par at the turn, challenged the leader, she closed to within two strokes before dropping strokes at five holes on the inward half. Miss Bradley said she felt she had the tournament won on the 14th green when she holed a 20-foot birdie putt.

COSTA MESA: LPGA: 284: P. Bradley, 71, 75, 68, 70; 289: D. Massey, 79, 66, 75, 69. 291: J. Blalock, 75, 75, 71, 70. J. Carner, 75, 71, 73, 71. J. Kazmierski, 72, 75, 71, 73. 292: J. A. Washam, 79, 71, 71, 71: D. Lundquist, 79, 73, 71, 69. 295: S. Little (South Africa) 82, 75, 70, 66; C. Reynolds, 82, 70, 72, 69; K. Postlewait, 79, 74, 72, 65; N. Lopez-Melton, 75, 72, 77, 69; S. Hamlin, 78, 69, 75, 73. Other foreign scores: 297: B. Murahir (Indonesia), 81, 76, 69, 71. 298: P. Pulz (Australia), 81, 73, 74, 70; 303: Al-Yu Tu (Taiwan), 80, 75, 71, 76. 304: J. Stephenson (Australia) 75, 77, 77, 75.—Reuter.

Rogers fights tenaciously for a long-awaited win

Hilton Head Island, S Carolina, March 30.—Bill Rogers squandered a five-stroke lead, but held on to win the Heritage golf tournament by one stroke. Rogers had a 70 to finish with a 72-hole total of 278, six under par. The win, the second of his seven-year career, was worth $54,000.

Hale Irwin, Gil Morgan, Craig Stadler and Bruce Devlin, of Australia, finished joint second, three strokes ahead of Tom Weiskopf. Rogers built up his five-shot lead on the first nine holes, but took one over par at the 10th, 11th and 14th holes. All four of his challengers had chances to tie with him on the final two holes.

Irwin came the closest with a 60ft putt on the 18th hole which rolled over the right edge of the cup and stopped inches away. Devlin, making his strongest attempt at victory on the United States tour in several years, had a birdie at the 17th hole to get to within one shot of Rogers, but missed a 12-foot putt at the 18th which would have brought him level.

Rogers has won big prizes before, notably in Japan and in the World Match Play at Wentworth. American tour victories, however, have been an elusive thing for the 29-year-old, who is recognized by his fellow professionals as one of the game's more consistent, accurate players. His only previous triumph had come in the 1978 Bob Hope Desert Classic.

Apart from this his career had been a frustrating series of unsuccessful challenges. He has won money consistently, some $490,000 over the last three years, and set a record of $230,000 without winning a title in 1979. Strangely, his second American title came after probably the worst slump of his career. He had missed the cut in five of his seven previous starts and had not finished higher than 40th since the second week of the season.

There was a gasp from the gallery when Rogers's tee shot on the par three 14th caught the pot bunker—so deep it has a step-ladder in it— that has caused such trauma in this event. It was from this bunker that Rik Massengale took six shots and Ray Floyd three.

It appeared that Rogers could lose his chance there, but he popped the ball out at the first attempt and then took two putts which reduced his lead to one. It was then a case of hanging on to his lead, which he did. He holed critical 5ft second putts for pars on the 15th and 17th holes and then put his second shot safely on the green on the final hole.

Final scores:

278: W. Rogers, 71, 69, 68, 70.
279: B. Devlin (Australia), 70, 71, 71, 67; H. Irwin, 68, 70, 73, 68; C. Stadler, 71, 70, 71, 67; G. Morgan, 67, 72, 72, 68.
282: T. Weiskopf, 71, 69, 72, 70.
283: G. Norman (Australia), 71, 72, 72, 68; A. Bean, 71, 72, 71, 69; R. Maltbie, 71, 68, 73, 71; T. Diehl, 73, 69, 70, 71.
284: B. Allin, 69, 73, 71, 71; R. Floyd, 69, 74, 70, 71. J. Mahaffey, 74, 67, 73, 69.
285: J. Haas, 74, 70, 69, 72; W. Kratzert, 70, 75, 72, 68.
Other foreign scores: 289: S. Ballesteros (Spain), 68, 73, 72, 76. 291: I. Aoki (Japan), 70, 70, 79, 72. 293: D. Graham (Australia), 71, 74, 78, 70. 297: J. Newton (Australia), 72, 73, 76, 76.—Reuter and AP.

Rowing

Cambridge make three bow side changes

By Jim Railton

Oxford University returned yesterday from the Isle of Wight to host the Old Blues and to continue to fiddle with equipment. Cambridge began the week as they left the last one, going solo and making a late attempt to weld together their new bow side order in time for Saturday's Boat Race (1 pm).

Cambridge revamped their crew last Thursday with three changes on bow side. The changes came after an uninspiring row against Barclays Bank, and as a direct result of Graeme Hall, the Cambridge coach, substituting for six-man Graham Phillips last week. While the changes are desperately late, Cambridge look better. But it cannot be long before this new line-up is put under pressure.

Cambridge, with no fitness doubts, must experience the technical confidence of holding together when the adrenalin spurts, bearing in mind that their three-man, Stephens, is the only bow side oarsman to retain his position since they arrived on the Tideway.

Oxford still have slight problems with their seats but, in contrast to Cambridge, they thirst for action. Yesterday it was a gentle task against Old Blues. Today they again take on the British lightweight eight, who finished fifth in Saturday's Head of the River race.

The Old Blues have once or twice in the past embarrassed Blue boats. But in recent years this malaise has not struck Oxford. Yesterday, in an observed 90-second row, Oxford smoothly moved out to take two and a half lengths. The second contest started with the Old Blues almost half a length up and Oxford were level in 15 strokes, when Old Blues' stroke John Wiggins's oar snapped in two.

Oxford have named their plastic shell for Saturday's race after Russell Crockford, who rowed in the winning Oxford crews in 1978 and 1979. He was killed last year at the age of 23 in a car accident in Australia while on his way to a regatta.

The Cambridge reserve crew, Goldie, have also made changes since they lost their stroke with glandular fever. They have brought in Mark Gleave, who has rowed for both Isis and Goldie, at five. Goldie were 16 seconds slower than Isis in last Saturday's Head of the river race, so they, too, have problems to overcome.

It was not exactly the most stimulating of days on the Tideway and to prove the point, the heavens sent down occasional floods of tears. Today's outings, Oxford 9 and 6, Cambridge 10 and 2.30 from Putney.

OXFORD: *P. J. Head (Hampton and Oriel) bow, *N. A. Conington (Hampton and Oriel), R. P. Yonge (King's School, Canterbury and New College), R. Emerton (Abingdon and Christ Church), *N. B. Bankov (St Hugh's and Corpus Christi), C. J. Mahoney (Hampton and Oriel), *M. D. Andrews (Abingdon and Magdalen), *J. L. Bland (King Edward VI, Stafford and Merton) stroke, S. Brown (Taunton and Wadham), cox.

CAMBRIDGE: *J. Bart (Shrewsbury and Caius) bow, *N. F. Panter (Kingston and LMBC), R. J. Stephens (KCS Wimbledon and Emmanuel), M. J. S. Clark (Shrewsbury and Downing), M. P. Cowie (Cheltenham and Fitzwilliam), *A. G. Phillips (City of London and Jesus), *J. S. Palmer (Eton and Pembroke), *A. D. Dalrymple (Eton and Downing) stroke, *C. J. Wigglesworth (Bryanston and Jesus) cox.

*A Blue





Oxford at practice: Mahoney, Andrews and Bland feel the strain.

Leicester programme

2.15 KEYTHORPE STAKES (3-y-o maidens: £948: 7f)
1 00- Alfie Dickins, R. Hollinshead, 9-0 ..... S. Perks 2
3 Bellabel Geraghty, G. Huffer, 9-0 ..... P. Young 7
4 0-0 Brass Change, A. Bailey, 9-0 ..... R. Curant 8
6 03300- Foxy Fellow, C. Nelson, 9-0 ..... T. Rogers 15
7 000400- Frank Berry, G. Lewis, 9-0 ..... G. Sexton 3
8 00- Green Dawn, B. Hills, 9-0 ..... R. Street 5
9 0000- Lord of the Realm, C. Benson, 9-0 ..... J. Johnson 6
11 New Strike, G. Balding, 9-0 ..... R. Weaver 11
12 Polly's Brother, B. Hills, 9-0 ..... S. Cauthen 13
13 00220- Beeleigh, N. Callaghan, 8-11 ..... L. Piggott 1
14 3000- Habatashie, W. Wharton, 8-11 ..... W. Wharton 9
15 30300-2 Lord Wimpy, R. Hannon, 8-11 ..... P. Eddery 4
16 Perdiccas, C. Austin, 8-11 ..... M. Kettle 12
17 Pinden, R. Palling, 8-11 ..... Lunchbury 14
18 Xanthos, B. Hills, 8-11 ..... Willey 7 10
9-4 Beeleigh, 5-1 Lord Wimpy, 4-1 Polly's Brother, 7-1 Foxy Fellow, 8-1 Xanthos, 14-1 New Strike, 16-1 Brass Change, 20-1 others.

2.45 BESCABY STAKES (2-y-o maidens: £911: 5f)
1 Annsome Boy, M. McCourt, 8-11 ..... J. Reid 3
3 Clavalino, N. Vigors, 8-11 ..... R. Curant 14
4 Double Jet, Miss A. H.-Wood, 8-11 ..... A. Bond 12
5 Fight the Fire, W. Holden, 8-11 ..... P. Crunn 2
6 Four For Music, P. Haslam, 8-11 ..... P. Jago 1
7 Idle Market, R. Hannon, 8-11 ..... P. Eddery 13
10 Priors Paddy, P. Haslam, 8-11 ..... M. Kettle 4
11 Super Sunset, G. Hunter, 8-11 ..... P. Cook 9
13 Swing Fire, Mrs C. Reavey, 8-11 ..... T. Rogers 6
14 Unlimited, P. Cole, 8-11 ..... L. Piggott 8
16 Aboard, R. Smyth, 8-8 ..... W. Carson 7
17 Bag of Gold, R. Smythe, 8-8 ..... G. Ramshaw 10
19 High Authority, D. Leslie, 8-8 ..... P. Tulk 11
20 Kayella, W. Wharton, 8-8 ..... W. Wharton 5
7-2 Super Sunset, 4-1 Aboard, 9-2 Unlimited, 5-1 Kayella, 7-1 Idle Market, 8-1 Clavalino, 10-1 Four For Music, 16-1 others.

3.15 BURTON OVERY STAKES (3-y-o: £1,956: 1m)
2 4121- Belloc (C), R. Price, 9-1 ..... L. Piggott 4
3 134023- Grain Race, R. Hobbs, 9-1 ..... G. Baxter 1
4 30011- *Six Mile Bottom, H. Wragg, 9-1 ..... P. Eddery 2
5 00-00 *Mrs Hubbard, W. H.-Bass, 8-12 ..... J. Ives 6
6 2- Double Sharp, P. Cole, 8-6 ..... J. Reid 3
8 0- Young Royalist, P. Cole, 8-6 ..... R. Weaver 5
9 001 Fiona, M. Ryan, 8-8 ..... G. Starkey 7
15-8 Belloc, 11-4 Six Mile Bottom, 9-2 Grain Race, 6-1 Double Sharp, 10-1 Mrs Hubbard, 16-1 Fiona, 25-1 Young Royalist.

3.45 HOLWELL HANDICAP (£1,427: 1¼m)
1 203000- Pink Tank (D), M. Ryan, 8-10-0 ..... G. Starkey 10
2 04040-3 Grey Mountain (CD), P. Kelleway, 8-9-9 ..... L. Piggott 8
5 3304/03- Fraash (D), R. Lunness, 8-9-0 ..... C. Ollivier 5
8 0/10000- Slitherum, R. Hannon, 6-8-12 ..... R. Cochrane 5 6
9 20130-0 Simpson Jersey, B. McMahon, 7-8-11 ..... W. Carson 13
13 31022-2 Ski's Double (D), R. Hollinshead, 5-8-7 ..... Paul Eddery 5 9
15 002404- Grade Well (CD), G. Blum, 6-8-2 ..... M. Rimmer 5 4
17 000000- Lost For Words, R. Boss, 4-8-2 ..... G. Baxter 15
18 240000- Nurose (CD), A. Hide, 6-8-1 ..... — 3
19 0/00003- Bill Gibb, R. Morris, 4-8-0 ..... — 14
21 021200- Hangaeng, G. Fletcher, 9-7-13 ..... R. Fox 7
22 000130- Waleed, W. Musson, 6-7-8 ..... E. Johnson 1
23 00004- Elsell, M. Eckley, 6-7-7 ..... W. Newnes 5 2
24 0000/20- Whisky Go Go, R. Morris, 5-7-7 ..... H. Crowley 5 11
27 000000- Sadodab (D), J. Edmunds, 8-7-7 ..... I. Jenkinson 12
5-2 Ski's Double, 5-1 Grey Mountain, 9-2 Whisky Go Go, 6-1 Simpson Jersey, 10-1 Slitherum, 12-1 Fraash, 16-1 Pink Tank, Waleed, 25-1 others.

4.15 HARBOROUGH STAKES (3-y-o maiden fillies: £868: 1m)
2 0- Aminta, W. Elsey, 8-11 ..... — 1
3 Daring Dame, P. Cole, 8-11 ..... L. Piggott 5
4 English Princess, H. Westbrook, 8-11 ..... P. Cook 8
5 0-0 Harmony Bay, G. Spares, 8-11 ..... S. Williams 7 4
7 000000- Lawnswood Miss, R. Hollinshead, 8-11 ..... — 6
8 00- Lowther Street, D. Ancil, 8-11 ..... — 11
11 030300- Nautique, W. Wharton, 8-11 ..... W. Wharton 2
12 003- On Song, R. Price, 8-11 ..... B. Rouse 9
13 000- Pitti Donna, C. Brittain, 8-11 ..... E. Johnson 10
14 000000- Skybright, G. Blum, 8-11 ..... M. Rimmer 5 3
15 000240- Trichoria, R. Smith, 8-11 ..... W. Carson 7
11-4 On Song, 4-1 Aminta, 5-1 Trichoria, 11-2 Daring Dame, 7-1 Nautique, 8-1 Harmony Bay, 12-1 Pitti Donna, 16-1 others.

4.45 REMPSTONE HANDICAP (3-y-o: £1,278: 5f)
4 020000- Steel Garrison (CD), G. Hunter, 8-11 ..... L. Piggott 9
5 000413- Fairgreen (D), H. Westbrook, 8-9 ..... P. Cook 7
6 000000-3 El Presidente (B), A. Bailey, 8-7 ..... R. Curant 1
7 000420- Persian Pact, W. Wharton, 8-7 ..... W. Wharton 3
8 004- Smile For Me, R. Houghton, 8-5 ..... J. Reid 2
10 040000- Gulf Palm, R. Smyth, 8-0 ..... W. Carson 5
11 200000- Diamond Horseshoe (B), R. Akehurst, 8-0 ..... G. Baxter 10
12 001000- Mott the Hoople, P. Haslam, 7-8 ..... C. Leonard 6
13 223200- Jade Empress, K. Ivory, 7-7 ..... K. Leason 12
14 0040- Humble Blue, G. Fletcher, 7-7 ..... R. Fox 1
15 002000- Tommy's Gold, M. Tompkins, 7-7 ..... B. Crossley 3 11
16 230000- Wembley Market, K. Ivory, 7-7 ..... P. Howard 7 8
100-30 Fairgreen, 4-1 El Presidente, 9-2 Smile For Me, 5-1 Steel Garrison, 7-1 Persian Pact, 8-1 Gulf Palm, 12-1 Mott The Hoople, 16-1 others.
*Doubtful runner.

Leicester selections

By Michael Seely
2.15 LORD WIMPY is specially recommended. 2.45 Super Sunset. 3.15 Belloc. 3.45 Ski's Double. 4.15 On Song. 4.45 El Presidente.
By Our Newmarket Correspondent
2.15 Beeleigh. 2.45 Four for Music. 3.45 Grey Mountain. 4.15 Skybright. 4.45 Fairgreen.

Ayr programme

2.30 CASTLE HILL HANDICAP (Apprentices: £1,284: 1¼m)
1 1040- Fascadale (CD), J. W. Watts, 7-10-0 ..... Fotheringham 5
2 4204- Prince Warren, R. Stubbs, 4-9-5 ..... Barnes 6
5 310- Bustedaway, G. Richards, 5-8-9 ..... Bell 1
8 0000- Fine Point, Denys Smith, 4-8-2 ..... Campbell 7
10 4040- Brigadier Green, W. H. Williams, 4-7-13 ..... Longair 8
11 3300- Jolly Marjim, E. Weymes, 4-7-13 ..... Carlisle 2
12 300-0 Syncopate (D), G. Lockerbie, 5-7-13 ..... Beecroft 3
14 000-0 Takachiho (CD), T. Craig, 6-7-7 ..... Murray 4
18 300-1 Spanish Handful (C), R. Stubbs, 6-7-12 ..... Fry 9
5-2 Syncopate, 7-2 Fascadale, 11-2 Fine Point, 7-1 Prince Warren, 8-1 Jolly Marjim, 10-1 Brigadier Green, 12-1 Bustedaway, 16-1 others.

3.00 SMITHSTONE HANDICAP (3-y-o: £1,497: 7f)
1 4021- Monza Lady, E. Weymes, 9-7 ..... Hide 4
2 0220- Eskview Lad, T. Craig, 8-8 ..... Raymond 1
3 000- Dawn Redwood, T. Fairhurst, 8-5 ..... Beecroft 2
4 3004- Tudor Dream, W. H. Williams, 8-0 ..... Birch 3
Evens Monza Lady, 9-4 Tudor Dream, 5-1 Eskview Lad, 10-1 Dawn Redwood.

3.30 COODHAM HANDICAP (£2,364: 1m 5f)
1 0023- Fair City (C), W. H. Williams, 4-10-9 ..... Birch 5
2 0320- Glenvara (CD), R. Peacock, 4-9-7 ..... Hide 1
3 2040- Rafael Molina (C), Denys Smith, 5-9-5 ..... Lowe 4
4 3033- Polliform, C. Bell, 4-9-1 ..... Carlisle 3
6 2040- High Hills (D, B), T. Craig, 7-8-10 ..... Raymond 7
8 100/ Justafancy, G. Richards, 8-8-5 ..... Wood 6
9 00/0- My Timmy, M. W. Easterby, 4-8-5 ..... Charnock 2
9-4 Rafael Molina, 11-4 Glenvara, 9-2 High Hills, 7-1 Fair City, 12-1 Polliform, My Timmy, 14-1 Justafancy.

4.0 LAMLASH STAKES (£815: 6f)
2 0000- St Benedict, A. Smith, 4-9-9 ..... Birch 5
3 0200- Montazem, J. Berry, 4-9-4 ..... Darley 4
5 /300- Kamenev, D. Chapman, 4-8-13 ..... Webster 3
6 04C4- Magneto, N. Callaghan, 4-8-10 ..... Raymond 9
9 0000- Gold Breeze, W. H. Williams, 5-8-5 ..... Hide 7
10 3000- Go Lissava, D. Chapman, 5-7-12 ..... Proud 1
11 0030- Granpark, J. S. Wilson, 3-7-12 ..... Carlisle 6
13 00- Anfield Lady, W. H. Williams, 3-7-9 ..... Charnock 2
15 00- Blue Empress, M. E. Francis, 3-7-9 ..... Lowe 8
11-4 Gold Breeze, 7-2 Magneto, 4-1 St Benedict, 6-1 Granpark, 7-1 Montazeem, 10-1 Go Lissava, 14-1 Kamenev, 16-1 others.

4.30 HILLHOUSE STAKES (2-y-o: £1,570: 5f)
1 Blue Do, T. Craig, 8-11 ..... Birch 4
3 Boy Sandford, C. Bell, 8-11 ..... Carlisle 5
6 Little Vee, J. Berry, 8-11 ..... Darley 1
9 3 Prajai, T. Fairhurst, 8-11 ..... Gray 3
11 1 Super Bee (CD), N. Callaghan, 9-2 ..... Raymond 2
11-10 Super Bee Jay, 3-1 Prajai, 6-1 Little Vee, 12-1 Blue Do, 14-1 Boy Sandford.

5.0 AUCHANS STAKES (£824: 1m)
1 00/0- Abu Torkey, Denys Smith, 4-9-9 ..... Sidebottom 6
2 040/ Jane Roy, M. W. Easterby, 4-9-6 ..... Raymond 7
3 002- Rage Glen, R. Stubbs, 4-9-6 ..... Webster 2
6 Burn's Monument, W. H. Williams, 3-8-5 ..... Birch 1
9 0000- Panto Island, T. Fairhurst, 3-8-5 ..... Gray 3
10 2- Say Primula, J. W. Watts, 3-8-5 ..... Hide 5
12 00- Beniform, Mrs A. Bell, 3-8-2 ..... Hutchinson 4
4-6 Say Primula, 4-1 Abu Torkey, 7-1 Panto Island, 10-1 Rage Glen, 12-1 Jane Roy, 20-1 others.

Ayr selections

By Michael Seely
2.30 Syncopate. 3.0 Monza Lady. 3.30 My Timmy. 4.0 Magneto. 4.30 Prajai. 5.0 Say Primula.
By Our Newmarket Correspondent
4.0 Magneto.

Sandown Park NH card

2.0 DOWNS CHASE (Selling: Handicap: £1,105: 2m 18yd)
1 0p00 Little Abbey, J. Fitzgerald, 9-12-2 ..... Brennan 7
2 0030 Geoffs Choice, J. Long, 11-11-5 ..... Mann
3 3024 Banador, R. Perkins, 10-11-2 ..... Keightley
6 1040 Pistol Pukka, R. Carter, 6-11-1 ..... Jackson 7
7 -00pp Leoncavallo, N. Mitchell, 10-11-1 ..... Stronge 5
8 4pp0 Sackville, J. Bradley, 9-11-0 ..... G. Davies 7
9 p0-34 Cheltenham, M. Naughton, 8-11-0 ..... Bradley
10 2p04 Jet On (B), P. Pye, 8-10-13 ..... Coyle
11 2400 Pauldenam, R. Dean, 10-10-13 ..... Akehurst 5
13 0u0p Right Regal (B), J. Old, 9-10-12 ..... McIlfatrick 5
14 0u43 Mouldy Old Dough, F. Muggeridge, 12-10-10 ..... Muggeridge 7
15 -0000 Tornado Prince, R. Atkins, 9-10-10 ..... Chilton 7
16 34p0 Tight Schedule, J. Bridger, 11-10-10 ..... Richards 7
17 000u- Gwaynton, T. Hallett, 7-10-8 ..... Went 7
18 0000 Really Proud, M. Bolton, 7-10-7 ..... Page 7
20 4000 Jackadandy (B), A. Moore, 10-10-7 ..... Perrett 7
21 -02u0 Equity, J. Laurie, 12-10-7 ..... Elliott 5
22 04ff Flautist, G. Harman, 9-10-7 ..... Harman 5
23 00-00 White Lancer (B), A. Moore, 7-10-7 ..... Double 7
24 p03-f Indian Scholar, D. Lewis, 12-10-7 ..... —
25 pp/ Bold Mariner, R. Atkins, 13-10-7 ..... Millman 7
4-1 Banador, 5-1 Cheltenham, 6-1 Sackville, 8-1 Mouldy Old Dough, Tight Schedule, 10-1 Jet On, Geoffs Choice, 12-1 Pistol Pukka, Tornado Prince, 14-1 Little Abbey, 16-1 others.

2.30 NOVICE CHASE (Div I: £1,594: 2½m 68yd)
2 32f1 Lesley Ann, D. Elsworth, 7-11-10 ..... C. Brown
4 1f14 Major Swallow, F. Winter, 6-11-10 ..... Francome
6 4f01 Bayham Sir Vardon, C. Read, 7-11-5 ..... Rowell
8 3231 Go Arrowsmith, R. Shaw, 6-11-5 ..... Webber
13 0300 Benny's Boy, A. Moore, 8-11-0 ..... Moore 4
17 00f4 Bronze Image, J. Long, 8-11-0 ..... Mr Head
19 00-p Certainty, E. Courage, 6-11-0 ..... —
22 03ff Dutchman, T. Forster, 7-11-0 ..... H. Davies
24 f4f0 Grand Armagnac, H. O'Neill, 6-11-0 ..... Graces 4
30 0f40 Rabid, J. Millington, 7-11-0 ..... Mr Millington 7
33 0-232 White Heron, D. Grissell, 7-11-0 ..... Bastard 4
1-2 Lesley Ann, 6-1 Major Swallow, 7-1 Bayham Sir Vardon, 8-1 Go Arrowsmith, 10-1 White Heron, 20-1 others.

3.5 ALANBROOKE CHASE (Handicap: £3,360: 3m 118yd)
1 0420 Approaching, J. Gifford, 10-11-10 ..... Champion
2 p4uu Good Prospect, N. Gaselee, 12-11-4 ..... Linley
3 4312 Hard Outlook, A. Wales, 10-10-7 ..... Francome
6 1024 Pongee Boy, R. Perkins, 8-10-2 ..... C. Tinkler
8 1010 China Cottage (B), P. Bailey, 8-10-0 ..... Smith Eccles
9 4110 Red Cleric (CD), M. Naughton, 7-10-0 ..... G. Grant
10 4313 Special Cargo, F. Walwyn, 8-10-0 ..... W. Smith
12 4320 Fjord (CD), T. Forster, 11-10-0 ..... de Haan 4
13 4020 Hampara (CD, B), I. Dudgeon, 10-10-0 ..... Scudamore
14 -0ppf Winterbourne Lad (B), J. Bosley, 8-10-0 ..... Waite 4
17 0p01 Mr Balnac (CD), A. Wates, 11-10-0 ..... Webber
19 3112 Mr Darkie, R. V. Shaw, 6-10-0 ..... —
21 4fu4 Never Rock, J. Webber, 12-10-0 ..... Mooney
22 4400 Miss Relinus, W. Sheedy, 11-10-0 ..... Mrs Sheedy 4
9-4 Approaching, 7-2 Special Cargo, 9-2 Hard Outlook, 6-1 Good Prospect, Pongee Boy, 7-1 Red Cleric, 14-1 others.

3.35 ROYAL ARTILLERY GOLD CUP CHASE (Hunters: Amateurs: £1,237: 3m 118yd)
1 p/31- Border Mark, I. Evetts, 13-12-6 ..... Capt Evetts 7
2 2-043 Ten Up (CD), T. Forster, 14-12-6 ..... Capt Hedges 7
3 Crystal Wedding, M. Evans, 12-11-6 ..... —
4 0/3p- Gosterwood Rose, G. Murphy, 10-11-6 ..... Lieut-Col Cramsie 7
5 Nanamo, B. Ward, 7-11-6 ..... Heaton-Ellis 7
4-5 Ten Up, 6-4 Border Mark, 10-1 Gosterwood Rose, 16-1 Crystal Wedding, 20-1 Nanamo.

4.10 SPRING CHASE (Handicap: £2,152: 2m 18yd)
1 2130 Professor Plum (CD), T. Forster, 8-12-0 ..... Mr Thomson-Jones
2 1313 Starlight Lad, R. Bethell, 7-11-11 ..... C. Grant
3 44u0 Bannow Breeze, M. Naughton, 9-11-7 ..... Bradley 7
4 22p2 Reidis (CD), D. Gandolfo, 7-11-5 ..... Barton
6 33-1 Line Shooter, F. Walwyn, 9-10-13 ..... Mooney
8 p-000 Dancing-in-Irish, J. Old, 9-10-11 ..... Champion
9 0/30- Tower-Bird, J. Webber, 9-10-10 ..... Mr P. Webber
10 -0410 Regatus, H. Westbrook, 7-10-8 ..... Smith Eccles
11 1001 Mister Parsley, F. Winter, 8-10-8 ..... Francome
12 1330 The Herb, Mrs D. Oughton, 6-10-7 ..... Gribble 4
13 4013 Rogenis Choice (CD), A. Wates, 9-10-0 ..... A. Webber
14 0000 Gleaming Flight (CD), M. Haynes, 11-10-0 ..... Suthern
15 4023 Birshell, J. Bridger, 9-10-0 ..... Gracey 4
9-4 Reidis, 7-2 Starlight Lad, 9-2 Mister Parsley, 5-1 Professor Plum, 6-1 Line Shooter, 8-1 Bannow Breeze, 14-1 others.

4.40 ROYAL ARTILLERY UBIQUE CHASE (Hunters: Amateurs: £1,242: 3m 5f 18yd)
1 301-0 Clonmellon (CD), Mrs E. Lees, 14-11-13 ..... Miss Saunders 7
2 p420 Coolishall (C), B. Munro-Wilson, 12-11-13 ..... Munro-Wilson 7
3 2.1-p Crystal Cottage, G. Barley, 9-11-13 ..... Woolley
4 0 Evens Fira, D. Sielf, 13-11-13 ..... Miss Yeomans 7
5 03-4p Favourite Felle, A. Chamberlain, 9-11-13 ..... Chamberlain 7
7 4-1 French Peacock, B. Hind, 9-11-13 ..... Hind 7
8 2011- His Nibbs, Mrs R. Haslegrave, 9-11-13 ..... Docker
9 4fb-4 Night School, H. Irish, 12-11-13 ..... Mrs Irish 7
12 002-f Royal Guide, N. Rainford, 10-11-13 ..... Mann 7
13 043-3 Scort, P. Rowlby, 11-11-13 ..... Bowlby 7
14 p-041 Spartan Laco, G. Tarry, 11-11-13 ..... Tarry 7
15 3u0-3 Vulbay Ruler, M. Bales, 13-11-13 ..... Tolhurst 7
3-4 Coolishall, 4-1 Crystal Cottage, 5-1 Night School, 6-1 Clonmellon, 8-1 Spartan Lace, Scort, 10-1 French Peacock, 14-1 others.

5.10 NOVICE CHASE (Div II: £1,584: 2½m 68yd)
5 0p-1p Balmers Coombe, N. Mitchell, 9-11-5 ..... Mr Sherwood
7 4u10 Buloji, R. Ledner, 8-11-5 ..... Mrs Ledger 1
12 1320 Tilthammer Mill, F. Rimell, 7-11-5 ..... Mr Woods
16 010-0 Black Cloud, A. Moore, 6-11-0 ..... Moore 4
18 Canico Ship, R. Blakeney, 6-11-0 ..... Leach
21 20p4 Cregg, Mrs J. French, 8-11-0 ..... Mrs French
23 001p Glissando, B. Wise, 8-11-0 ..... Akehurst 7
26 p0f0 Pardon (B), F. Winter, 7-11-0 ..... Francome
31 00-3 Tantaliza, G. Maundrell, 6-11-0 ..... Mr Maundrell
33 2310 Saint Taffy (B), J. Webber, 5-10-10 ..... Mr Webber
36 f00f Commander Christy, H. O'Neill, 5-10-5 ..... Graces 4
2-1 Tilthammer Mill, 4-1 Balmers Coombe, Saint Taffy, 6-1 Glissando, 10-1 Buloji, Tantaliza, 14-1 Pardon, 16-1 others.

Sandown Park selections

By Our Racing Staff
2.0 Cheltenham. 2.30 Lesley Ann. 3.5 Mr Darkie. 3.35 Ten Up. 4.10 Mister Parsley. 4.40 Coolishall. 5.10 Tilthammer Mill.

Folkestone

1.45 (1.46) **HEADCORN STAKES** (2-y-o: £800: 5f)
WINDY LAD, ch c by Tumble Wind—Bold Bird 8-11 ..... S. Salmon (12-1) 1
Sharp Melody ..... A. Kimberley (5-1) 2
Cashel Bay ..... W. Newnes (9-2) 3
TOTE: win, £1.48; places, 51p, 31p, 15p. Dual F: £4.48. CSF: £27.50. S. Matthews, at Winchester. 3l, 2l. Angela Edelson 7-4 fav. King of Speed (11-2) 4th. 9 ran.

2.15 (2.18) **ALKHAM HANDICAP** (Selling: £610: 6f)
DAWN'S DELIGHT, b g by Dawn Review—Bird of Passage 5-7-0 ..... P. Howard (12-1) 1
Winds Up ..... S. Salmon (12-1) 2
Goldoration ..... G. Sexton (11-1) 3
TOTE: win, £5.58; places, 73p, 3up, 56p. Dual F: £51.05. CSF: £15.30. K. Ivory, at Radlett. 4l, 1l. Rinas Bounty and Veeya 6-1 jt favs. Simpline Gold (8-1) 4th. 15 ran.

2.45 (2.46) **KINGSWORTH HANDICAP** (£1,550: 1½m)
AZD, ch g by Be Friendly—Portden 6-8-11 ..... A. Bond (16-1) 1
Corduroy ..... B. Rouse (5-1 fav) 2
Irish Poet ..... J. Black (11-2) 3
TOTE: win, 93p; places, 17p, 13p, 37p. Dual F: 91p. CSF: £6.22. M. Masson, at Lewes. 1½l, 12l. Entebbe (9-2) 4th. 11 ran. NR: Lord of Misrule.

3.15 (3.16) **ALDINGTON HANDICAP** (£966: 5f)
DELTA'S PRIDE, b g by Mummy's Pet—Alexandria 5-7-11 ..... A. Clark (6-1) 1
Blues ..... B. Rouse (7-1) 2
Kassak ..... J. Reid (4-1) 3
TOTE: win, 55p; places, 19p, 30p, 49p. Dual F: £1.91. CSF: £5.02. K. Ivory, at Radlett. 5l, 1l. Fiddler 9-2 fav. Sally's Silver (12-1) 4th. 10 ran.

3.45 (3.47) **ROCHESTER STAKES** (£1,297: 1½m)
ILMAZ, ch h by Morston—Meridie 5-9-0 ..... B. Rouse (11-2) 1
Cardiff ..... W. Newnes (5-2 fav) 2
Hymnos ..... J. Reid (9-2) 3
TOTE: win, 65p; places, 16p, 25p, 27p. Dual F: 65p. CSF: £2.12. D. Morley, at Bury St Edmunds. 15l, 7l. Silcakes (8-1) 4th. 12 ran.

4.15 (4.18) **SHORNCLIFFE STAKES** (3-y-o: £552: 1½m)
RAY CHARLES, gr c by Sun Prince—Ivory Gull 9-0 ..... B. Taylor (6-4 fav) 1
Rheingold's Gift ..... P. Bradwell (8-1) 2
Fitzgayle ..... A. C. Rawlinson (14-1) 3
TOTE: win, 25p; places, 20p, 18p, 98p. Dual F: 82p. CSF: £1.55. G. Harwood, at Pulborough. ½l, 6l. Dutch Princess (13-2) 4th. 14 ran. PLACEPOT: Not won. Pool of £428.50 carried forward to Sandown Park today.

SCOTTISH GRAND NATIONAL: Fighting Kit 9-12-0, Peter Scot 10-11-10, Royal Mail 11-11-10, Aldaniti 11-11-10, Straight Jocelyn 11-11-9, Two Swallows 8-11-8, Approaching 10-11-8, Tragus 9-11-8, Spartan Missile 9-11-8, Silent Valley 8-11-6, Bellon Gorse 8-11-6, Megan's Boy 8-11-5, Sparkie's Choice 8-11-5, Narvik 8-11-4, Father Delaney 9-11-4, Sugarally 8-11-4, Rambling Jack 10-11-4, Good Prospect 12-11-2, Slender 10-11-1, Bobsub 8-11-0, Salkeld 9-11-0, The Vintnor 10-11-0, Highway Pal 8-11-0, Rubstic 12-10-13, Jack Madness 9-10-13, Modesty Forbids 9-10-13, Prince Rock 13-10-12, Tour De Bolshoc 8-10-12, Scroggy 9-10-12, Ballet Lord 10-10-12, Fair View 11-10-11, Chumson 10-10-11, Zongalero 11-10-10, Jer 10-10-10, Gabel Lidn 9-10-9, The Fencer 9-10-9, Kelso Chant 9-10-8, Another Prospect 9-10-7, Ballydonagh 8-10-7, So And So 12-10-6, The Chump 13-10-6, Royal Charley 10-10-6, Grand Cru 11-10-5, The Engineer 9-10-5, Artistic Prince 10-10-4, Current Gold 10-10-4, The Baker 11-10-4, Another Captain 9-10-4, Unruly Sun 10-10-4, Portway Nick 11-10-2, Su 12-10-2, Pongee Boy 8-10-0, Monkswell 9-10-0, Twidale 8-10-0, Tangles Brother 9-9-13, Pacify 11-9-13, Only Money 10-9-13, Master Brutus 9-9-13, Waggoners Walk 12-9-13, River Sirene 8-9-13, Wagner 11-9-12, Kalmandu 8-9-12, Hindhope 11-9-12, Spider Man 10-9-10, Sebastian V 13-9-10, Rapallo 11-9-9, Jimmy Miff 9-9-9, Slippery Dick 9-9-8, Upstar 11-9-8, Drumroan 13-9-7, Dirlwyn 9-9-7, Don't Chime 10-9-7, Clever General 10-9-7, Monty Python 9-9-6, Carndonagh 11-9-6, Turk 9-9-5, Albury Lad 11-9-4, Three To One 10-9-4, Marnik 7-9-3, Caldhurk 11-9-2, Beeno 9-9-2, Royal Guide 10-9-2, Southern Favour 7-9-1, Casher 8-9-1, Even Up 14-9-1, Saffron Gate 12-9-1, Weymouth Road 11-8-13, No Gypsy 12-8-13, Prince Token 10-8-13, Menquilla 8-8-13, Poker 14-8-12, Highland Barolo 9-8-10, Devon Mignon 11-8-9, Farsena 8-8-8, General Bruno 11-8-7, Phone Boy 11-8-7, Son and Heir 11-8-7, Gordon's Lad 7-8-7, The Manufacturer 9-8-7, Game Gentleman 10-8-7, Ratherne 8-8-7, Astral Charmer 8-8-7, Fabulous 8-8-7, Trichromatic 9-8-7, Lordel 9-8-7, Gitchild 10-8-7. To be run over four miles at Ayr on Saturday, April 11.

Leicester results yesterday

2.15 (2.16) **KNIGHTON AUCTION STAKES** (2-y-o: £625: 5f)
LOCKWOOD GIRL, b f by Prince Tenderfoot—Maluser (Mrs J. McCormack) 8-2 ..... P. Cook (8-1) 1
Martini Time ..... G. Duffield (9-2) 2
Broadway Lodge ..... R. Street (25-1) 3
TOTE: win, £1.44; places, 56p, 10p, 22p. Dual F: 81p. CSF: £4.61. G. Hunter, at East Ilsley. Hd, 1½l. Donna's Grey (4-1 fav) 4th. 16 ran.

2.45 (2.47) **BILLESDON HANDICAP** (Selling: £658: 1m)
ROYBIRDIE, gr f by Mansingh—Donna Julia (Lady Nelson of Stafford) 4-9-11 bl ..... W. Carson (9-4 fav) 1
Maurice's Tip ..... B. Crossley (20-1) 2
Corven ..... P. Eddery (100-30) 3
TOTE: win, 26p; places, 10p, 46p, 20p. Dual F: £2.66. CSF: £4.87. I. Balding at Kingsclere. 2l, 2½l. Powder Horn (11-2) 4th. 9 ran. NR: Record Wing.

3.15 (3.17) **WELFORD HANDICAP** (£2,313: 1½m)
THE GOLDSTONE, ch g by Murrayfield—Delph (Mrs S. Pakenham) 9-7-13 ..... K. Butler (20-1) 1
Polly Soleil ..... S. Cauthen (6-4 fav) 2
Mister Lucky ..... G. Starkey (10-1) 3
TOTE: win, £1.73; places, 32p, 15p, 10p, 25p. Dual F: £3.50. CSF: £5.06. W. Wightman at Upham. 1½l, sh hd. Ray Dancer (7-1) 4th. 17 ran. NR: Rheingold, Quriador.

3.45 (3.47) **SIMON DE MONTFORT STAKES** (Maiden 3-y-o: £913: 1¼m)
RIDGEFIELD, br c by Firestreak—Glebe Lass (R. Doughty) 9-0 ..... G. Starkey (4-5 fav) 1
Cavendish ..... J. Mercer (14-1) 2
Great Light ..... E. Johnson (33-1) 3
TOTE: win, 15p; places, 10p, 25p, 41p. Dual F: £3.01. CSF: £1.34. G. Harwood at Pulborough. ½l, 4l. Ruhina Park (12-1) 4th. 14 ran.

4.15 (4.16) **KIBWORTH STAKES** (3-y-o: £1,362: 1m)
CIMA, br c by High Top—Lemon Blossom (R. Lambourne) 8-5 ..... W. Carson (4-5 fav) 1
Navajo Brave ..... P. Cook (5-1) 2
Malseedy ..... R. Barnes (33-1) 3
TOTE: win, 19p; places, 10p, 12p, 40p. Dual F: 46p. CSF: 49p. J. Old, at Salisbury. 5l, 15l. Ryecroft (9-1) 4th. 8 ran.

4.45 (4.47) **LODDINGTON STAKES** (3-y-o: £956: 6f)
DISCO, ch c by Jukebox—Only a Game (L. Sainer) 8-11 bl ..... J. Mercer (11-8 fav) 1
Thai King ..... T. Ives (16-1) 2
Russian Romance ..... E. Johnson (6-1) 3
TOTE: win, 25p; places, 11p, 62p, 20p. Dual F: £2.42. CSF: £2.76. P. Walwyn, at Lambourn. 1l, 2l. Roofer (20-1) 4th. 17 ran. PLACEPOT: £5.10.

Ayr

2.30 (2.32) **KIDSNEUK STAKES** (2-y-o: £800: 5f)
SUPER BEE JAY, gr c by Mummy's Pet—Gold Ribbon (D. Sullivan) 9-0 ..... R. Raymond (7-4 fav) 1
Do It Now ..... K. Darley (5-1) 2
Mountaineer ..... S. Perks (16-1) 3
TOTE: win, 17p; places, 10p, 95p. Dual F: 54p. CSF: £1.02. N. Callaghan at Newmarket. 3l, 5l, 2½l. 1 min 10.2sec. Roman Quest (7-2) 4th. 7 ran.

3.0 (3.03) **LADYKIRK STAKES** (3-y-o: £1,171: 6f)
CLONEY BOY, gr c by Sovereign Path—Moorland Chant (M. Soudavar) 8-5 ..... R. Campbell (11-1) 1
Java Tiger ..... E. Hide (1-1) 2
The Huyton Girls ..... N. Connorton (20-1) 3
TOTE: win, £10.14; places, 76p, 15p. Dual F: £2.05. CSF: £5.16. Denys Smith at Bishop Auckland. 3l, nk. 1min 24.86sec. Record Surprise 5-2 fav. Mrs Chessy (12-1) 4th. 9 ran.

3.30 (3.32) **SEAFIELD HANDICAP** (£2,070: 6f)
MURILLO, b g by Windjammer—Fuiseog (C. Murphy) 5-9-2 bl ..... E. Hide (9-4 fav) 1
Croa Song ..... M. Birch (14-1) 2
Maybrook ..... M. Wood (10-1) 3
TOTE: win, 25p; places, 13p, £1.06. Dual F: £2.57. CSF: £3.53. J. W. Watts at Richmond. 5l, 5l. 1min 21.28sec. Our Foxbar (25-1) 4th. 11 ran.

4.0 (4.02) **RAVENSPARK HANDICAP** (Selling: £667: 1m)
SPANISH HANDFUL, br g by Philip of Spain—Double Handful (D. Sewell) 6-7-5 car 7-5 ..... M. Fry (6-1) 1
Hallo Checky ..... N. Carlisle (9-2) 2
Nonchalant ..... M. Birch (4-1 fav) 3
TOTE: win, 41p; places, 11p, 21p. Dual F: £1.85. CSF: £5.53. R. Stubbs at Hosty. 2l, 10l. 1min 57.16sec. Caernarvon Bay (9-1) 4th. 10 ran.

4.30 (4.31) **CARNOCK HANDICAP** (3-y-o: £2,000: 1m 2f)
FRENCH KNOT, b g by Take A Reef—Merella (T. Walker) 8-0 bl ..... A. Mercer (4-1 jt fav) 1
Tudorville ..... M. Birch (5-1) 2
Patchinia ..... J. Lowe (10-1) 3
TOTE: win, 37p; places, 08p, 19p. Dual F: 68p. CSF: £2.54. J. W. Watts, at Richmond. 12l, 1½l. 2min 33.55sec. Cobbler Smith (4-1 jt fav). Age of Reason (6-1) 4th. 7 ran.

5.0 (5.01) **GREENAN STAKES** (3-y-o: £700: 1m 5f)
WAY OF THE WOLD, b g by Sandford Lad—Tatty Kay (Mrs M. Hartley) 9-0 ..... J. Lowe (5-6 fav) 1
Luxembourg ..... S. Webster (4-1) 2
Auld Mang ..... R. Sidebottom (7-1) 3
TOTE: win, 16p. Dual F: 27p. CSF: 40p. 2min 51.0sec. S. Norton at Barnsley. 5l, 3l. Little Deen (1?) 4th. 5 ran. PLACEPOT: £13.55.

Hexham NH

2.30: 1, Glendyne (5-1 jt fav); Calcia Prince (5-1 jt fav); Gamble (14-1). Lord Melbourne jt fav. 17 ran.
3.0: 1, Impus (7-2); ... (6-4 jt fav); 3, Old ... Lucky Bew, other jt fav. Slag Party.
3.30: 1, Bally-Go ... Royal Minstrel (9-1) ... 13 ran.
4.0: 1, Choral ... Master Marmaduke ... Eskimo (33-1) ... 12 ran.
4.30: 1, Mirzen ... Sandcliffe (12-1) ... (16-1) ... 16 ran. Stonier Prince.
5.0: 1, N... Rocket (11-1) ... (33-1), 11 ran.

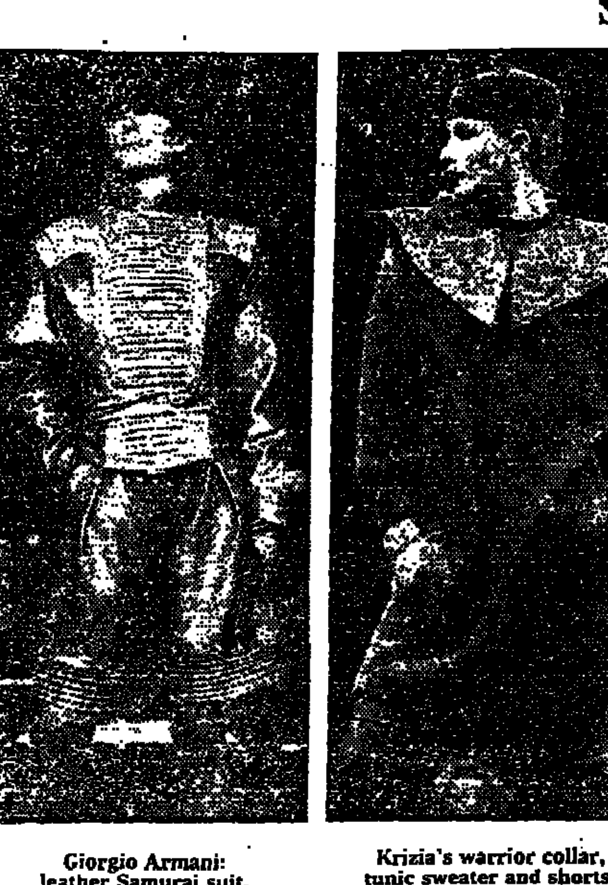
(continued on page 30)



Fashion by Suzy Menkes/The International Collections

Photographs by Harry Kerr

Samurai



Giorgio Armani: leather Samurai suit.

Krizia's warrior collar, tunic sweater and shorts.



Gianni Versace: obi sash on suede suit.

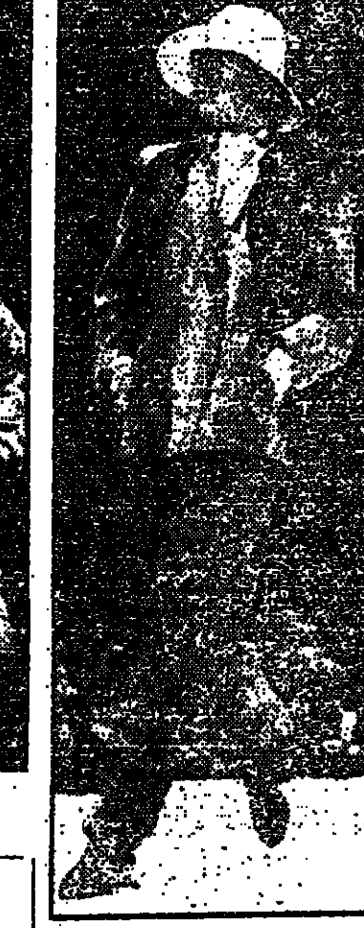


Laura Biagiotti's kimono cardigan.

Blanket tweeds



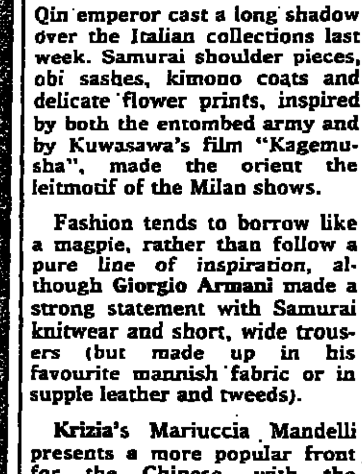
Missoni's patchwork tweed coat.





Basile's striped tweed jacket and Chinese trousers.

Jodhpurs



Missoni's pleated tweed knickerbockers and cardigan jacket.

Looking eastward in Milan . . .

The terracotta warriors of the Qin emperor cast a long shadow over the Italian collections last week. Samurai shoulder pieces, obi sashes, kimono coats and delicate flower prints, inspired by both the entombed army and by Kuwasawa's film "Kagemusha", made the orient the leitmotif of the Milan shows.

Fashion tends to borrow like a magpie, rather than follow a pure line of inspiration, although Giorgio Armani made a strong statement with Samurai knitwear and short, wide trousers (but made up in his favourite mannish fabric or in supple leather and tweeds).

Krizia's Mariuccia Mandelli presents a more popular front for the Chinese, with the familiar flat flower prints, pale brocades and dragon motifs of the later dynasties. Samurai warrior collars in studded leather are accessories to her soft striped tweeds and crunchy knits, rather than an integral part of an oriental feeling.

For other designers, the Eastern journey is to Tibet or Mongolia. There were luscious butterscotch sheepskin coats and boots at Genny, and Gianni Versace made throw-over blanket shawls and furry lined flat boots.

The result is a strong revival of a peasant feeling in fashion, even if those Chinese peasants today are wearing nothing more romantic than their unisex blue tunics and trousers. The peasant skirt, in floral or paisley prints at Krizia and at Laura Biagiotti, is the only serious skirt to come out of a week of fashion shows.

I realize that speaking of an ethnic fashion revival will have many women delving into their wardrobes for the Indian cotton skirts that they never gave away. The peasant feeling this time round is far cleaner, sharper and smarter than it appeared in the multi-layered hippie era. Its most successful look in Italy is with a long tunic sweater, often sashed Oriental-style at the hips, or with a short strictly tailored jacket.

The Milan skirts were either long and peasant-like (very long indeed at Basile, where designer Luciano Soprani made his blanket or tartan-checked skirts and culottes maxi length) or they are very short on knitted dresses, at Missoni, Biagiotti and all the younger houses.

To bridge the gulf between those women who do not want to wear thigh-high sweaters with matching tights, and those who are nervous of dropping their hemlines again, Milan produces trousers, and variations on them like culottes and shorts. The most familiar trousers are jodhpurs, which are now pleated, by all the big name designers to give a less ballooning shape at the hips and thighs. There are superb jodhpur suits at Versace, in hunting coloured cords, or in suede and leather which is now used all over Milan exactly as a fabric, teamed with silk or *chiffon* tunics at night and wool by day.

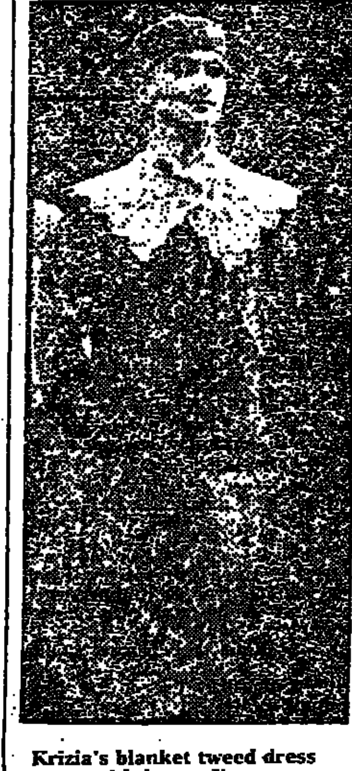
The flight from the tailored winter coat continues. There are now no overcoats proper in Milan, but many cape-backed and *poncho* shapes, always unstructured and unlined, and made in striped and checked blanket tweeds that are the most favoured fabrics for next winter. Missoni reverses these "Irish" tweeds (actually made in wondrous colour combinations by the Italian fabric houses) to their rainbows of soft knitting, or lines a knitted coat with raincoat fabric for the most elegant of macs.

To show Italian fashion without colour is like Hamlet without the Prince, or as jewels removed from their settings. The metaphor of jewelry is particularly apt, since the colours for next autumn are ruby red, deep jade or emerald green, a golden topaz and the clearest aquamarine.

I would have thought that there was enough inspiration in the terracotta buildings, the delicate creamy magnolia blossom and the lapis blue sky of the Lombardy landscape for the Milanese designers to draw upon. But they claim that their colour palette is from the Orient. The strong Chinese blue at Armani and Krizia's pearly white (especially effective in teardrops of pearls on pale sweater dresses) certainly come from East of the Arno.

Missoni are, of course, masters of colour, and their dazzling new collection harks back to the roots of their success in the early seventies. So do Tai Missoni's wall tapestries which hang in a gallery in Milan's elegant Via Manzoni.

I like to think of those patchworks of colour and textures (made incidentally, from the samples of knitting collected over 25 years) as a metaphor for Italian fashion. However diverse the design, the effect of the Milan shows is of a seamless whole, of elegance, fluidity and femininity which may once have been hallmarks of the Oriental woman, but is equally true of the Italian women in the streets today.



Krizia's blanket tweed dress with lace collar.

Versace's pleated suede jodhpurs and blanket shawl.



Genny's Tibetan breeches.

Oriental prints

Laura Biagiotti's lotus blossom ski-wear.

. . . and romantic in London

The return of romance. Principal boy evening suit of moire brocade breeches and jacket, with frilled shirt and giant bow, by Chris Clyne at the London Designer Collections.

Photograph by Alex Henderson

The New Romantic movement in post-Punk pop and the forthcoming royal wedding have combined to produce a strong and consistent British fashion story.

Romance is the theme of the London collections for next autumn/winter which opened this week with a flurry of frills and a rustle of taffeta. A natural predilection towards the past has swept in the rich velvets, the figured brocades, the lace trimmings and high-necked ruffs more recently seen on the stage than in society.

A principal boy, clad in velvet breeches and swashbuckling shirt has the starring role at the London Designer Collections at the Inn on the Park, where buyers could be forgiven for thinking that the entire show had been devised on one sketch pad, rather than from designers as diverse as Gina Fratini, Monica Chong and Belville Sassoon.

Cinderella, as well as her Prince Charming, has a new role in London fashion, for the revival of the ball gown (pioneered by Murry Arbeid and Emanuel) has been given an almighty push by Lady Diana Spencer's taste.

The other major British strength is knitwear, which is represented at the current exhibitions particularly in hand-knits, rather than the lambswool and cashmeres which are our classic export best sellers. The London Collections at the Intercontinental Hotel and the Individual Clothes Show, part of the large Olympia exhibition, are both strong on hand-knits, and there is a special show to be held at the ICA gallery later this week.

The pity of it is that with such a strong theme and such a high standard of design, British fashion is still not able to coordinate its selling tactics to make the maximum impact on overseas buyers, at whom the London Fashion Week is aimed. The travel-weary buyer is supposed to run between four different locations, none of which have any real market trend or speciality. For the next selling season, the situation is worse, with the design houses opting to show before the Paris collections and the mass-market selling two weeks later.

London fashion organizers constantly bewail the lack of public funding or private investment in our fashion industry, compared to our glossy counterparts in France and Italy.

I would welcome strong Government backing for an industry which is an important source of employment and a major export earner. But to merit being taken seriously, you have to look the part, and it is surely time for all those involved in the fashion weeks to put their own wardrobe in order.

A peculiarly British mix of *amour propre*, commercial interest and old-fashioned snobbery prevents the various organizers from working together under one roof. With the present number of participants in this trade fair (which includes for the first time this season the Fabrex showing of British fabrics), Olympia seems the *only* venue large enough to accommodate all exhibitors.

A more selective exhibition could be housed elsewhere, but the patience of overseas visitors is ebbing away. The time for the organizers to catch the flood tide of a strong British fashion story is now.



Salerooms and Antiques





Salerooms and Antiques next Tuesday, for details ring 01-278 9231

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Notice is hereby given, pursuant to Regulation 10(1) of the Civil Aviation (Investigation of Accidents) Regulation, 1969, that an Inspector's investigation under the said Regulations is taking place into the circumstances and causes of the accident that occurred on 12 March, 1981 about 2 kilometres southeast of St Fergus Village, near Peterhead, Grampian, to Sikorsky S76A G-BGXY registered in the name of BRISTOW HELICOPTERS LTD.
Any persons who desire to make representations as to the circumstances or causes of the accident should do so in writing to the Chief Inspector of Accidents, Accidents Investigation Branch, Department of Trade, Kingsgate House, 66-74 Victoria Street, London SW1E 6SJ within 14 days of the date of this notice and should quote the reference EW C750 01.
Dated this 31st day of March, 1981.

THE BRITISH RAILWAYS BOARD hereby give advance notice in pursuance of Section 54 of the Transport Act, 1962, that they plan to withdraw freight facilities from the following stations in the month of MAY, 1981
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Dated this 25th March, 1981.
A. R. M. SIMMONS,
Liquidator.

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Notice to Shareholders. THE 100TH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of the Shareholders of this Company, for the election of directors to take the places of the retiring directors and for the transaction of business generally, will be held on Wednesday, the 6th day of May next, at Odeon Cinema, Place du Canada, Montreal (entrance via Le Chateau Champlain), at 11.00 a.m. (daylight saving time, if operative).
The TRANSFER BOOKS of SHARES and STOCK will be closed at the close of business on Tuesday, the 28th day of April, 1981 and will be reopened on Thursday, the 7th day of May, 1981.
The Board of Directors has specified that the time before which a shareholder intending to vote by proxy at the Annual General Meeting or any adjournment thereof must deposit his proxy with the office of the Vice-President and Secretary at Montreal, Que., shall be 5.00 p.m. (daylight saving time, if operative) Monday, May 4th, 1981.
By order of the Board.
J. C. AMES.
Vice-President and Secretary.
Montreal, March 9th, 1981.

THE SCOTTISH LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY
Notice is hereby given that the 100TH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of the Company will be held within the Head Office, 19 St Andrew Square, Edinburgh, on Thursday 23 of April 1981 at 3 pm.
A member entitled to attend and vote at the meeting may appoint a proxy to attend and vote in his stead. The proxy need not be a member of the Company. There are no contracts of service between the Company and any Director.
W. M. MORRISON.
General Manager.
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(continued on page 30)

Sir Robert Mark says present investigation procedures are adequate

Complaints against the police: are changes really necessary?

The Home Secretary's working party set up to consider recommendations by the Police Complaints Board has submitted its report. The Board had suggested that complaints of serious injury (inflicted by the police) should be investigated by a specialist body of officers—these to be seconded from police forces but answerable to someone other than a police officer.

Before considering its comments it is necessary briefly to remind readers that allegations of crime by police are outside the Board's terms of reference. The Police Act, 1964 gives the Director of Public Prosecutions exclusive jurisdiction in all such cases. Only those in which he decides not to prosecute or in which there is an acquittal are likely to reach the Board.

There may, of course, be a few cases each year in which a complaint of crime by police is made directly to the Board. These would necessarily be referred immediately to the DPP or the chief constable concerned.

A second very important point is that Section 49 of the Act provides that chief officers may, and shall; if directed by the Home Secretary, request the chief officer for any other police area to provide an officer to carry out the investigation. That procedure is invoked by chief officers as a matter of routine and so far the Home Secretary has not found it necessary to issue a direction. In 1977 the number of investigations conducted by secondary forces exceeded 150.

The public however, remain generally unaware of it. Some newspapers on discovering that investigations are being conducted by secondary forces even assume that they give grounds for suspicion. They mistakenly imply that they have been ordered by a police authority or by the Home Secretary and that this gives cause for distrust of the senior officers of the force under investigation. That is not true of a single case, though the complexity of the issues is such that the suspicious may be forgiven for understandable error.

The third relevant point is that virtually all such cases will be submitted to the DPP because they relate to alleged crime. The Board can therefore have little opportunity to experience the effectiveness of the existing machinery, which meets almost all the requirements of its recommendations. It affords a supply of skilled investigators from secondary forces who report to someone other than a police officer, namely the DPP.



Sir Robert Mark

Lest I should be thought unfairly critical of the recommendations I should say that of the working party's 12 members only two, both of them Board members, seem to support them. The other 10 ... clearly see them as serving no useful purpose or offer no comment

The three aspects of the Board's recommendations not provided for by the 1964 Act are:

1. Whether such arrangements should be *obligatory* in relation to the investigation of complaints not amounting to crime.
2. Whether the investigation should be "supervised" by an independent person.
3. Whether selection of the investigating officer should be approved by the Board.

The conflict when assault leads to serious injury

The first poses the difficult question that an assault resulting in serious injury must initially be considered as criminal and that the proposed change might imply conflict of jurisdiction between the DPP and the "supervisor". It seems difficult to envisage a case within the categories touched upon by the Board in which such a difficulty would not arise. Moreover, I think it unlikely that those critics whom the establishment of the Board was designed to placate would find a decision by a Board member more acceptable than that of the DPP who has unequalled experience in this very difficult field.

If it is contemplated that the "supervisor" would exercise jurisdiction only in those cases in which the DPP has declined to prosecute, this must give the appearance of a "second bite of the cherry". By that I mean that it is questionable for police to base disciplinary charges on evidence sufficient to achieve conviction for a criminal offence. Clearly, therefore, the proposed change could be applied fairly only in cases in which disciplinary proceedings were thought justifiable because criminal conviction was considered unlikely.

The second proposal for independent supervision of the investigation of complaints may conveniently be considered with the third, the approval by the Board of the investigating officer. A review body which adulterates its function by participating in initial investigation undermines its purpose. It is not enough to say that a "supervisor" in such a case would not be involved in its review. The Board is seen by the public to be committed and it is to the satisfaction of the public, not the Board, that any change should be directed. A "supervisor" appointed from outside the Board is merely an extension of the function of the DPP or deputy chief constables to someone inevitably less experienced in this particular field.

Approval of the investigating officer by the Board, while appearing desirable to the layman, would be simply a cosmetic device. In practice, the Board would have to seek the advice of the Chief Inspector of Constabulary or one or other chief police officer, the practice already obtaining.

Lest I should be thought unfairly critical of the recommendations I should say that of the working party's 12 members only two, both of them Board members, seem to support them. The other 10, comprising the DPP and police representatives at junior, intermediate and senior level, clearly *see them as serving no useful purpose or offer no comment*. In addition, some of those *members of the public who continually express satisfaction with the existing procedures have already declared the proposals to be without merit*.

The importance of immediate investigation

It cannot be emphasized too strongly that any review process is secondary. The most important requirement in relation to complaints against the police is the certainty of an immediate, thorough and impartial investigation with a view to prosecution if the evidence satisfies the DPP, whose experience of such investigations is unique and who is a democratically accountable public official.

Experience shows that no subsequent action of any kind will repair the omission to fulfil that requirement. Royal Commissions and tribunals of inquiry can do no more than close the stable door after the horse has bolted, though occasionally they can suggest changes in the stabling arrangements.

The real difficulty for the public in considering the recommendations is that they are offered no evidence at all of the need for change. No detailed reference is made to the actual working of the police disciplinary machinery. Only research by the knowledgeable is likely to uncover its remarkable effectiveness, because the public are not told of it. No cases are cited as affording justification for such controversial and speculative change. Indeed, it is gratifying to read that the Board is generally well satisfied with the investigation of complaints. This was not, however, the objective to be attained by its creation, which was the achievement of the same satisfaction by the public.

This the Board, through no fault of its own, has not even begun to achieve, and it is not uncharitable to suspect that the present recommendations arise partly from frustration at its inability to serve the purpose for which it was created. It may have made decisions of relevance or significance during its first three years, if so the public is unaware of them. Perhaps in view of the intransigent nature of the problems with which it is concerned and the lack of public understanding of them, it might be most beneficial were the Board, with the consent of the Home Secretary, to invite external inspection of its working, as did the Metropolitan Police in 1975.

The examination of A10 by a national newspaper did more than anything else could have done to convince the public of the willingness of the police to establish effective machinery to ensure accountability and if not silence, at least to embarrass its critics.

If such a move served no other purpose, it might improve understanding of the complaints machinery by politicians and journalists. It would, in any case, seem much more likely to achieve that desirable result than implementation of the recommendations of the working party.

The author was Commissioner of the Metropolitan Police from 1972-77.



A wartime meeting: General Sikorski with King George VI in 1940.

Why this hero should be left in peace

Bernard Levin

With Poland on the brink again, what I have to say today may seem like no more than an irritating footnote to the great events unfolding there; even a footnote, however, may be a symbol, and there is a powerful symbolism at work in the story.

I am usually left uninterested in the demands (our century in particular is littered with them) for the return to his native country of the bones of some local hero who died in foreign parts. The bones, after all, cannot feel (the elaborate arrangements some people make for the disposal of their remains strike me as absurd): Full fathom five thy father lies, Of his bones are coral made . . .

But one such demand, being made at present, seems to be worth resisting. The government of Poland is asking the British Foreign Office to return to the land of his birth the remains of General Sikorski, who is buried here, and the centenary of whose birth falls in May.

Why should not this simple and apparently harmless gesture be made? Before answering my question, I had better tell my younger readers who Sikorski was. After the completion of the joint invasion and occupation of Poland in 1939 by the Germans from the West and the troops of Hitler's Soviet allies from the East, many of Poland's leaders managed to get to Britain, as did a substantial number of her troops, to carry on the war. General Sikorski was the head of the Polish Government-in-exile; he was subsequently killed, in 1943, in an air-crash at Gibraltar, and his body was brought home to Britain and interred in a cemetery at Newark, in Nottinghamshire.

The nature of the cemetery is itself of some interest. It is one of those in which are buried the Poles who died fighting as part of the Allied forces; of all the nations of Occupied Europe, none provided so many men and women to fight the Nazis, and it scarcely needs saying that no such contingent fought with greater bravery than the Poles.

The hideous irony of Poland's fate should haunt the Western world until night falls on us too. Sold to Stalin at Yalta (I suppose it's a mercy that the crew who so enthusiastically pursued the policy of sending back innocent Russians to be exterminated by Stalin never managed to think up a plan for returning the free Poles to a similar feat), Poland became, and has remained, the most cruelly used of all the colonies of the Soviet Union. Countless thousands of Poles had been shipped East to die in Stalin's concentration-camps after the 1939 Partition; during the war, untold further numbers died at the hands of the Nazis; then, after Poland's "liberation" from one slavery into another, Stalin and his heirs completed the colonization of the country. The rest, surely, even my younger readers know.

In one sense, Sikorski was lucky to die when and how he did, for at least he escaped the fate of the members of the provisional government set up in Warsaw at the end of the War, who were tricked into going to Moscow and there arrested; after a show trial, most of them were murdered.

But though his remains now lie among his fellow-Poles and fellow-soldiers in Newark, who thought that they were fighting and dying to defeat Hitler in the name of freedom, only to discover that in their case it was retrospectively decided that they were doing so in order that their country could exchange one tyrant for another, the puppet-government of Kania and Jaruzelski now wants his ashes back, to be re-interred in the land of his birth.

That, in the circumstances, is a fairly impudent demand; but contained in it is a more particular irony that is worse. Until recently, Sikorski's name has been virtually banned in Poland, like that of Thomas Masaryk in Czechoslovakia. The Quislings who rule in the captive nations of the Soviet Empire do not want the people they have betrayed to be reminded of their nation's heroes, lest the people start to think too deeply about the nature of their heroism and of the cause in which it was called forth. A Pole who thinks about Sikorski will inevitably be led to think dangerous thoughts about Sikorski's contribution to the war for his country's independence, and the contrast between Sikorski's aims and Poland's present reality will be very stark indeed. Now, however, the Warsaw viceroys, with no support whatever among the people, feel obliged to try to ingratiate themselves with those whom they rule in the name of a foreign power, and the rehabilitation of General Sikorski is part of that campaign.

Yet even if Sikorski's name had not been expunged from the doctored record of Polish history the present Polish regime's demand would still be unacceptable. There is, as well there might be, a thriving organization in this country among those of Polish origin who fought in the Second World War; I remember them turning out in enormous numbers at the ceremony of dedication at Gunnersbury Cemetery, in West London, of the memorial for the 11,000 Polish officers massacred by Stalin's killers at Katyn. The Polish ex-servicemen's groups have protested against the Polish government's proposal; for them, Sikorski's memory is a symbol of their struggle and of their dead comrades' sacrifice, and his burial-place in Britain is an even more powerful symbol of the fact that the present rulers in Warsaw are shameless impostors, maintained power by a hated enemy.

As well as being notoriously brave, the Poles are notoriously magnanimous; when they contemplate Britain's role in the story of their fate, they need to be. (That shameful role, it is worth reminding ourselves, continued all the way to the planning and building of the Katyn Memorial, obstructed to the last by the Foreign Office and the Government — and, naturally, the Church of England.) It says much for their character that their bitterness is wonderfully little directed against Britain; on the contrary, their devotion to the country in which so many of them settled is fierce and warm.

With what feeling of further betrayal, then, would they greet the news that Britain's present government was even contemplating returning General Sikorski's ashes to Poland at the request of rulers who are Polish only in name, and whose regime has not the palest shadow of legitimacy or authority; indeed, it is bad enough that the Polish Ambassador here should even be received at the Foreign Office on such an errand.

It does not much matter whether General Sikorski's ashes lie in Nottinghamshire or Warsaw; the ashes are cold, and his deeds of courage and resolution are recorded in history. But it matters greatly that Britain should stand by the free Poles, whether those in exile or those engaged in a struggle to the death in Poland. Refusing to return Sikorski's remains except at the request of a true Polish government of a free Poland would do something to demonstrate that Britain does indeed support the efforts of Poles everywhere to regain their independence and their freedom.

Shock horror revelation

I have been writing this column, at first twice weekly, then thrice, for 10 years; for the past four and a half years I have combined this labour with a weekly contribution to *The Sunday Times* also, first as its theatre critic, latterly as its chief fiction reviewer. Enough is enough; I have decided that I need a complete break with regular newspaper deadlines, and the consequence is that the last of these columns will appear on Thursday, April 23, the last of my *Sunday Times* reviews having appeared on April 19.

I shall certainly write some kind of valedictory address to my readers, at immense length and not necessarily in prose, at the time of my departure; this is just a preliminary announcement, designed to prepare the nation for what will in any case by a desolating blow, and also to stop *idiotic* rumours getting about, not that it will. (My decision is in no way based on any disquiet on my part at the change of editors or proprietor, nor on any lack of confidence in the papers' future, and anyone saying or writing anything to the contrary is, and should for all material purposes be treated as, a liar.)

Whether, when, where and in what manner I return to newspaper journalism are questions I am not at present asking myself, let alone answering. I can only advise my readers to watch this and all other relevant spaces for news. Some may in addition care to know that I have a book coming out in the autumn and another next year, to say nothing of a vista of television programmes, so the unbearable prospect of a world without my publicly expressed thoughts is not exactly in the offing.

More in good time.

The ifs and buts of the Biggs affair

On the face of it, the extradition of Ronald Biggs from Barbados looks to be relatively straightforward. But, as the last attempt to get Biggs back demonstrated, such open-and-shut cases can go wrong and there is, in addition, a political consideration over which Britain has no control.

The Brazilian authorities have apparently made representations to the government of Barbados, asking for Biggs to be returned to Brazil, from where he was illegally abducted. That is not a request by the Brazilians for his extradition. Biggs has committed no crime in Brazil. The argument is that Biggs, a person under the protection of the Brazilian government, was the subject of a criminal act which Barbados should not be seen to condone. For reasons of internal politics—Biggs is popular among the people of Barbados, and there is a forthcoming election—and for the sake of good foreign relations, the government might be tempted to treat Biggs as an illegal immigrant, and deport him. It is customary to deport an illegal entrant to his last country of call—Brazil. It would be breaking all precedent to deport him, say, to Britain, or to any other country not of his choice.

Assuming, however, the case takes the legal, rather than the political channel, what will happen, and what can go wrong? The Director of Public Prosecutions, through whom the request was prepared at this end, has wisely decided not to try to get Biggs back on any new charges for instance any connected with the escape—because to have done that would have necessitated complicated documentation, sworn affidavits, witness statements and the like, to prove that he had committed a crime. It is in any case uncertain that his escape involved committing any extraditable offence. Instead the request for extradition is being made on the simple basis that Biggs has been convicted of a serious offence in this country, and that he is wanted to serve out the remainder of the sentence imposed on him. It is not necessary to provide proof of the original crime.

The request to Barbados is being made under the Fugitive Offenders Act 1967, which applies only between Commonwealth countries. Barbados has a similar, reciprocal, law. Where non-Commonwealth countries are involved, slightly different procedures are used, depending on the terms of the treaties between the United Kingdom and the foreign state, and subject to the Extradition Acts 1870-1935.

‘There is no question of Biggs being able to argue that his was a political offence or that his return was being sought by the British to persecute him for his beliefs’

Under the Fugitive Offenders Act, the British authorities will have to prove to the court in Barbados that Biggs is Biggs (which is not in doubt, and is anyway backed by fingerprint evidence) and that he has committed the kind of offence which is subject to extradition (he has). There is no question of Biggs being able to argue that his was a political offence, or that his return was being sought by the British in order to persecute him for his beliefs, both of which factors would have allowed him to resist extradition.

There is, however, one possible legal avenue open to him. He will, if the court orders his return to Britain, be entitled to bring an application for *habeas corpus*. It is specifically stated in the Fugitive Offenders Act that a judge will be entitled to grant an applicant his freedom if it would be unjust or oppressive to return him because of the length of time that has elapsed since the offence or since he has been at large.

This may not be as much in Biggs's favour as it might seem. In previous cases in which the fugitive has successfully claimed that he should not be extradited for that reason, the authorities of the requesting country have been dilatory either in investigating the crime or in asking for the return of the criminal. But where the reason for the time gap has been purely the criminal's, the excuse has not found favour with the courts.

In one case in 1971 it was held that, despite an eight-year delay, the requesting country was entitled to get the criminal back because it was his own actions that had prolonged the time, not the tardiness of the government.



Ronald Biggs in Barbados

Marcel Berlins
Legal Correspondent

LONDON DIARY

Your honest, disobedient servant

Those of you who do not enjoy an office of profit under the Crown, that is to say are not civil servants, may be forgiven for having forgotten that there is a full-scale, first class, premier league industrial dispute going on in Whitehall and in government establishments up and down the land.

The revolt of the Brolly Brigade, as these unlikely militants hate to be called, has not had much of a press lately, but I can assure you that their campaign of casting spanners in the wheels of state continues and, indeed thrives.

So much so that the mandarins have asked those of their minions who are shop stewards to own up and declare how much time they are spending trying to thwart their employers' wage restraint policy—in order that their pay can be docked accordingly.

I know this because there has landed on my desk a little gem from MESH, the Ministry of Eternally Springing Hope, otherwise known as the Department of the Environment Property Services Agency, Directorate of Establishments. From Lambeth Bridge House a Mr Bernard Bennett has written to union officials who enjoy "100 per cent facilities time" (what you and I would call full-time shop stewards).

"The grant of facilities time", writes Bennett, "is made to enable you to effectively carry out the range of industrial relations duties to which you have been elected. This does not include time spent in furthering strike action or covering for persons who are on strike duty of some sort.

"It is clearly our management duty to ensure that government resources are not used to further a strike against the Government, and I would imagine that you for your part would not wish to draw salary for what must be, by definition, an anti-employer activity." And he asks all those involved to tell their pay liaison officer exactly how many hours they are spending in anti-employer activity, so that pay can be "abated".

"Oh yes, I'm sure our activists will be queuing up to make sure their pay is docked", said David Hall, research officer of the Society of Civil and Public Servants, with what I detected as the oral equivalent of a smirk.

Solidarity...

The ops room of Civil Service Strike Command at Rochester Row in Victoria is a busy, cluttered sort of place, crammed with phones and bursting with top-secret files on where the strikes will hit next. Just the sort of place, you might imagine, for the Russians or anyone else to indulge in a spot of the currently fashionable trade of spying.

However, relations between the strike leaders and the Soviet Embassy are a little cool at present. When the unions had their one-day strike on March 9 and set up pickets outside Downing Street, they picked up on the grapevine the news that Victor Popov, the Soviet Ambassador, was due to visit the Iron Lady at home to deliver a Very Important Note.

So a union official was detailed to phone Popov's secretary with a request that the USSR should respect the comradely picket line. There were some suspicious exchanges.



"And then of course the salaries of 264 economists should make quite a saving."

Marc is on holiday

Popov's man was very worried that there might be "intimidation", presumably having seen television pictures of unruly communists on picket lines.

But he brightened up when told there would be only peaceful persuasion. So was everything clear? "Da", he beamed down the phone. "We will go through."

Cross line

In these espionage-obsessed days, the unions organizing the strikes that have robbed the Government of nearly half its revenue (which I think is only fair, as the Government robs me of a fair whack of mine) take it for granted that their telephones are bugged.

Which made it all the more surprising when one of the Council of Civil Service Unions' young lady plotters lifted her earpiece to find herself listening to a conversation about oil supplies from a top-secret government communications headquarters in London, and "how they could *lose* the bill in other people's departmental accounts". A case of the bugger bugged.

But life for the tacticians of Rochester Row does have its embarrassing moments of a different kind. It seems that one of the three new direct-line phones in the fourth-floor ops room (views over Pimlico) was once listed as a massage parlour.

The result is that a number of gentlemen keep on ringing Strike Command to ask if "Heather" is available, or to make even more pointed requests. When they discover whom they are really talking to, I gather that their ardour withers before you can say "flying picket".

From the Historic Houses Association programme of activities for the year: "Saturday 13 June, 'The Italians In England', tickets £6.50 including finger buffet. Friday 19 June, special evening with exhibition, 'Whose finger?'"

The heat's on

I have had my annual call from Arthur Mackins, the weather forecaster and amateur climatologist, of Bognor Regis, promising yet another scorching summer. Last year I published his rosy predictions for the summer of 1980 which were so spectacularly wrong that a cloudburst of odium descended upon our joint heads and drenched our respective reputations.

However, I entirely accept Mackins's defence that he is not in a position to predict major volcanic eruptions. What blew him disastrously off course last year, he told me yesterday, was the Mount St Helens business last May, which threw a mantle of dust between the sun and my back garden.

Mackins, a retired banker, pointed out that Britain experienced precisely the same sort of dismal summer in 1912, soon after an outburst of volcanics in Alaska.

With neck in noose and fingers crossed against eruptions, I give you the Mackins cheer for the summer of 1981. And it has to do with Christmas Day last year having been on a Thursday.

Every time in the past 25 years that Christmas has taken on a Thursday, says Mackins, it has been followed by a fine summer, notably those of 1958, 1969 and 1975. In addition, he can trace a five-year cycle of scorchers throughout the century, starting in 1914 and last seen in 1976. The cycle faltered during the forties, but that was probably something to do with Hitler.

The scorcher cycle resumed in 1947, a year which 1981 is beginning to resemble. February 1947 was unusually dry (so was this year's) but the March was the wettest on record with 6.5in of rain; this March we have had well over five inches. But by June 1947 they were cooking at 95 Fahrenheit in Rickmansworth.

Mackins also forecasts a warmer and wetter spring than usual because the wind was from the south-west at the equinox on March 21; at the same time last year it was from the north, and we all know what the result was. This year we should even avoid the traditional chilly week around May 9, known as "Buchan's cold spell".

But Mackins's most important prediction is that July 29, royal wedding day, will be fine and sunny. As before, I invite you to keep these predictions until then; you might be glad of the paper to light a fire while you watch the ceremony.

An encouraging sign that the tide of so-called progress is turning. A notice in the London Electricity Board showroom at Mill Hill says that to offer a speedier service to customers paying their bills, accounts will no longer be receipted by machine; a rubber stamp will be used instead.

Alan Hamilton



P.O. Box 7, 200 Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 8EZ. Telephone: 01-837 1234

AN AVALANCHE OF ECONOMISTS

The Gang of 364 university economists have, presumably, achieved their primary purpose. This was to challenge the Prime Minister's often asserted view that there is no alternative to a continuation of present policies. When 76 present or past professors, five ex-chief economic advisers to past governments and the collective leadership of the Royal Economic Society combine in such a strong denunciation of the existing strategy it must have a major impact on the intellectual debate about policy.

The Prime Minister has already indicated that she is unimpressed by the exercise. The combined weight of the reputations of those involved in the exercise, however, makes it inevitable that the terms of the debate about current economic policy will have been altered. There is always a lag between changes in the intellectual climate of debate and changes in the framework of policy. It is a fair certainty that, whatever the Prime Minister's firm talk of unswerving adherence to the set path now, the trend of the path that will in fact be followed has been changed.

In summary the recent debate about economic policy has gone somewhat as follows. Post-war economic policies aimed at maintaining reasonably full levels of employment in combination with reasonably low levels of inflation had become less and less successful. In so far as they were based on governments adjusting the total level of demand in the economy, "demand side" economics as a basis for policy had become progressively discredited. The Keynesian and neo-Keynesian economists who had believed they were possessed of the fruit of the tree of economic knowledge lost confidence in the power of their nostrums and the public lost confidence in them. In addition the continual swings into and out of various phases of prices and incomes policies only served to underline the fact that full employment and low inflation could no longer be combined.

Thus the middle ground of economic debate, so long dominated by Keynesians, was increasingly yielded to the men of the "supply side" school. They held in general that supply within an economy creates its own demand: that inflation itself by forcing the prices to uncompetitive levels was causing unemployment: and that once inflation could be brought under control there would be an automatic recovery in output and employment.

The week-end statement represents a measure of recovery in the morale and confidence of the economic establishment. They have decided to counter-attack at the moment when the economics of the new school, so whole-heartedly embraced by the Prime Minister and the leading economic ministers in the present government, is beginning to look unrealistic in its own turn. It seems clear that the number and quality of those agreeing to sign the statement have been substantially increased by the Chancellor's recent budget. For he chose deliberately not to fudge the central issue. In the face of the evidence that the Government's central economic strategy had not worked as expected during the first two years of this administration, he chose not to modify the policy but to press on, claiming to have learned from past mistakes.

Yet, for all the undoubted impact of the statement, it is essentially negative. It asserts that neither theory nor evidence supports the belief that further reduction in total demand will permanently control inflation and thus induce an automatic recovery in demand. It also asserts that there are alternative policies.

No doubt it is unreasonable to expect 364 economists to agree to any positive statement of what such alternative policies might be. Politicians, however, cannot afford the luxury of contenting themselves with negative criticisms of particular policies. For, if one policy is rejected, something in practice has to be put in its place. Mrs Thatcher is right to reject any suggestion that the very real gains in terms of reduced inflation and a greater sense of reality in our commerce and industry should now simply be thrown away.

There is gathering evidence that in a period of relatively high inflation it is impossible to impose very low rates of growth of the money supply and damaging to attempt to do so. It would, however, be quite wrong to abandon any attempt to have a restrained monetary policy. It has indeed been a source of weakness rather than strength to the Government in the past two years that its primary economic targets were set in over-simple terms of one monetary measure, the well-known sterling M3. In the next eighteen months the authorities would probably be wise to allow more scope for judgment.

It is also time to accept that the disadvantages of further deflation of the economy are seriously outweighing the advantages in terms of improved competitive performance. The time has come for monetary and fiscal policies to be adjusted in such a way that gradually rising demand can take advantage of the improvements on the supply side of the economy that have taken place in the last two years. This is not a call for a programme of excessive reflation. It is simply a recognition of the fact that little more of benefit is to be gained by further squeezing the system, while much industrial and social damage is now in prospect if output trends continue downward and unemployment trends continue upward indefinitely.

PAKISTAN IN THE FRONT LINE

Between one and a half and two million Afghan refugees have now streamed over the border into Pakistan, and have made their homes in semi-permanent encampments. The West's concern for these victims of Soviet aggression was voiced over the weekend by Lord Carrington, who visited the refugee camps and offered £4m in aid. The Government of President Zia ul Haq is clearly hoping that Western aid will increase not only because of the refugee problem but also because of Pakistan's strategic position.

The new Administration in Washington has certainly given President Zia grounds for optimism. Under President Carter the United States offered Pakistan $400m over a two-year period, but refused military aid as long as Pakistan was both suppressing human rights and developing nuclear weapons. President Reagan, by contrast, has made it clear that he sees Pakistan as a front-line state in the world-wide struggle against Soviet Communism. American officials have stopped talking about conditions, and have spoken of aid for Pakistan to the tune of $500m a year.

Economic assistance to Pakistan is clearly justified. So too is the sale of arms, whether at cut rate prices, as the Pakistanis want, or on credit terms, as the Americans would prefer. What is much more difficult to justify is the kind of direct, long term military commitment to President Zia's regime which some members of the Reagan Administration appear to have in mind. In the four years since he came to power, President Zia has suppressed political opposition to his military regime, including supporters of the former Prime Minister Zulfikar Ali Bhutto, who was executed two years ago. The hijacking of a Pakistani airliner by a group linked to one of Mr Bhutto's sons earlier this month has enabled General Zia to discredit the Pakistani Peoples Party, the political movement dominated by the Bhutto family. In a further repressive move, President Zia has now emasculated the courts by altering the constitution and making the judiciary subordinate to the military authorities.

The Zia regime has been able to impose tight discipline on Pakistan, and the invasion of Afghanistan has provided a pretext for further tightening up. But President Zia is none-the-less vulnerable. Although there is no visible alternative to his rule at present, people have not forgotten that the introduction of military rule in 1977 was supposed to be "temporary". The demand for a return to democracy is never far from the surface.

In these circumstances the best course for the West is to support Pakistan's independence and territorial integrity, without becoming too closely associated with the regime currently in power in Islamabad. Both Pakistan and the West have a common interest in resisting any Soviet attempt to use Afghanistan as a base from which to encroach on neighbouring territory, or any Soviet attempt to organize subversion among minority groups, such as the Baluchis on the Pakistan-Iran border.

But in the long run unconditional or uncritical support for President Zia could alienate democratic forces inside Pakistan, and above all increase the danger of a powerful reaction against the West should the present regime fall. The image of the United States as an imperialist power in the eyes of the Third World has been receding gradually in recent years. It could all too easily be restored by clumsy and belligerent behaviour on the part of an American President who sees complex regional problems in simple cold war terms.

NATIONAL POLITICS AT COUNTY HALL

An innocent observer at yesterday's launching of the Labour Party campaign for the Greater London Council elections might have been forgiven for remaining uncertain whether the elections in May are to determine the tenure of County Hall or of that other place on the opposite bank of the river. Sir Horace Cutler was awarded a taunt or two, but the real villain of the occasion was Mrs Thatcher. The polite fiction which holds that voters in local elections are swayed by local issues was almost disregarded. In this, the Labour Party showed sound judgment for two reasons. Events on the national level have probably already lost the GLC for the Conservatives, whatever their candidates in the election itself may do or promise. Moreover, the Labour manifesto for London is of a character quite as likely to alarm as to attract any voters who become aware of it: diversionary tactics are therefore wise.

The GLC electorate is always inclined to the left. A swing of only two per cent from the level of support the Conservatives had at the last general election would be enough to restore control of the GLC to Labour. There are many Liberals standing this year, as well as a handful of Social Democrats pointedly unblessed by the tetrarchs of the new party, but although these may expect to do well, they would have to do startlingly well to secure a balance of power.

The Conservatives base their campaign on a claim to good husbandry. They have paid off the large debts that their predecessors ran up (except for housing capital debt), reduced manpower by 16 per cent, and kept rate increases well below the average. These achievements are partly once-for-all effects of the council's policy, broadly welcome, of restricting its activities to a more truly strategic level, but it is a solid record, more conservative (without the capital letter) than Sir Horace's love of showmanship sometimes suggests.

The Labour programme, by contrast, deliberately calls for higher spending and higher rates. It would be likely to double the GLC precept within two years. Through municipalization and new building, it would seek to re-create the GLC housing empire that the Conservatives rightly dismantled, because it was too large to administer effectively. It would plunge expensively into direct labour again. It would cut London Transport fares by 15 per cent and then freeze them for four years, an open-ended and indiscriminate subsidy which would put six to eight pence on the rates at once. In addition, it promises to recruit more London Transport staff and pay them more. An earlier proposal to abolish fares altogether was shelved because of trade union concern that the disappearance of tickets might eventually threaten the employment of ticket-collectors. There is a case for discriminating investment in better equipment and management in public transport, but these proposals seem adapted only to subsidize the growth of waste.

In London as in other cities, the power of the Left in the party at constituency and ward level has been growing. Mr Andrew McIntosh, the party leader in the GLC, is relatively moderate, but soon after the election his leadership will be challenged, quite possibly with success. The priorities of a substantial body of opinion within the party were expressed in a longer version of the manifesto, not mentioned yesterday but not repudiated which committed a Labour GLC to resist Government appeals for spending cuts, to encourage strikes against them if necessary, and to make itself the focal point of a national campaign to bring about an immediate general election. It is carrying contempt for local politics too far when power on the GLC is sought openly, less to serve the electors of London than to use County Hall as a lever to overthrow the Government.

Civil Service salaries

From Mr Maritz Vandenberg

Sir, Your listing (March 20) of Civil Service salaries, and those of the "similar private sector jobs" with which they need to "catch up" is illuminating.

You list six private sector jobs and their associated salaries. These are (and I quote your decriptions exactly as printed) in a leading pharmaceutical company, a leading chemical company, a large manufacturing company, a large oil company in central London, and two clearing banks.

In other words, the salaries being paid by the charmed minority of most affluent and secure types of business in the private sector, bearing little relation to the world which most of us inhabit. The "private sector salary level" for a copy typist, if we are to believe the Civil Service table, is thus £5,369, plus subsidized loans or mortgages, plus subsidized meals worth £330 a year.

Fascinating! In my own company (and, I suspect, most others in the private sector) copy typists get £1,000 less, the ordinary allocation of luncheon vouchers, and no subsidized mortgages.

Would that we had pay comparability with a selection of chemical, oil, and banking concerns at the upper levels of the private sector—and the ability to put our hands into the taxpayer's pocket to extract the largesse we had "calculated" was due to us.

Yours faithfully,
MARITZ VANDENBERG,
21a Gwendolen Avenue,
Putney, SW15.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Social Democratic prospects

From Mr Richard Lamb

Sir, There is a strong parallel between the Social Democrat Party today and the New Party in 1931. Fifty years ago in March the New Party was launched by five MPs who had forsaken their own parties. Their policy was to allow the public sector borrowing requirement to soar in an attempt to reduce unemployment and they wanted, like the SDP, to transform the face of British politics.

Oswald Mosley, the New Party leader then untainted by fascism, had been both a Conservative and Labour MP, and because of his stand against the evils of unemployment probably had more electoral appeal than anyone in the SDP today. However, unlike the SDP, the initial launch was a flop. Mosley was ill. W. J. Brown, MP, ratted at the last moment, so Lady Cynthia Mosley, MP, and John Strachey, MP, had to go it alone without much success.

However, at the Ashton-under-Lyme by-election the New Party soon got a full dose of national publicity and in the absence of the Liberals polled enough votes (14½ per cent) to let the Tory win a Labour seat. This must also be a likely result of SDP intervention today in Labour seats.

In 1931 the New Party urgently needed a deal with the Liberals, who also advocated high state spending to mop up unemployment. This was impossible because the New Party demanded high import duties, which the Liberals would not even consider.

Without any agreement with the Liberals the New Party fared disastrously in the 1931 general election.

In your leader today (March 27) you write of the need for "a deeper alliance between Liberals and SDP to make the new group credible". This is a lesson from 1931 which holds good today.

The Grimond Liberal revival in 1964 and the Thorpe Liberal revival in 1974 failed largely because the Liberal image was not quite credible enough, mainly because none of their leaders had any experience of Government office. This Liberal gap the SDP could fill.

If there is to be a reshaping of politics in the next Parliament, some of the former Labour ex-ministers who have joined the SDP must be elected, and without a fusion or close alliance with the Liberals this is unlikely because they will not get a chance to contest the vulnerable Tory seats. No doubt SDP support would make all Liberal candidates more credible, but in terms of getting SDP candidates elected the Liberals have even more to offer the SDP.

The SDP image cannot be maintained at its current level for the two years until the general election and without the right relationship with the Liberals they risk vanishing into thin air, as did the New Party in 1931.

Yours truly,
RICHARD LAMB,
Knighton Manor,
Broadchalke,
Salisbury, Wiltshire.
March 27.

Constructive dissent

From Dr Brian Mawhinney, MP for Peterborough (Conservative) and Mr Michael Ancram, MP for Edinburgh, South (Conservative)

Sir, We write in the hope that you will make space available in your paper to enable the 364 economists who signed yesterday's statement (*The Times*, March 30) criticizing government economic policy to set out the unanimous alternative which they obviously and honourably must have had in mind in order to make the criticisms which they have.

Yours faithfully,
BRIAN MAWHINNEY,
MICHAEL ANCRAM,
House of Commons.
March 30.

Television right of reply

From Dr Michael Rose

Sir, It follows from the letter by Dr Legg and Dr Rees (March 21) that television companies are indicted by their failure to evolve a proper, effective and public scheme for correcting false information and for modifying discredited opinion which they have broadcast. Without such provision they literally get away with murder. Unlike government they have no obligation to stand by their errors. The integrity of the medium and of its officials falls apart at the seams, either by virtue of the assumption—in which the public partly colludes—that they are always correct (or as correct as they can be) or that it doesn't matter.

ITN had ample opportunity to put right their error concerning Mr Le Carré (*The Times*, March 17) during their coverage of Maurice Oldfield's funeral on March 19. If that is not perceived as a primary public responsibility, prior to the further dissemination of news, then it is just another extempore performance.

As it stands, television is both a pervasive and attractive, though often unreliable, chronicler of current affairs. The sing-song analysts and abrasive question masters appear on the screen as if they sat in judgment from another planet and have been employed also to rewrite the scenario, subordinating matters of substance to the indulgences of form and style.

Since the producers take credit they may also see fit to take responsibility. Except when it became expedient to sink *Death of a Princess*, such an inclination is not much in evidence. With the BBC, however, it is not only important but may be deemed a public right to know that the producers and governors have got the message. That is still something they haven't let us know. Opinion is like the wind, insubstantial with a potential to devastate.

Yours faithfully,
MICHAEL ROSE,
Haematology Department,
St James' Hospital,
Sarsfeld Road, Balham, SW12.

University options in leaner times

From the Vice-Chancellor of Brunel University

Sir, Your leader of March 19 described in reasoned terms the difficulties of universities. Given a determination to survive, however, there is no reason why any institution should be unable to adapt to the new situation unless cuts are made so savagely and so quickly that there really is no time to do so.

If our assured income from government sources were reduced by 11-15 per cent, as appears to be the Government's present intention, we have at least three possibilities: to earn money from other sources, including those overseas: to urge those who have already earned a reasonable pension to retire early from full-time service: and, as a last resort and after consultation and agreement with our staffs, to forgo part of our salaries and adopt short-time working until money is again available to fund the investment in the future that universities represent.

Even if we were forced to accept short-time working we would still be in no worse a position than many of our counterparts in industry. Who knows, we might even be setting an example appropriate to others whose employment is secure!

With 15 per cent less money we will certainly not be able to provide all the facilities or teach all the students that we have in the past: but we must surely try to avoid the human distress and waste that redundancy causes when unemployment is high and to preserve our institutions ready for full use when policies again change.

Yours faithfully,
S. L. BRAGG,
Brunel University,
Uxbridge,
Middlesex.

From Mr A. J. Burkart

Sir, In his letter (March 24) Dr O'Hea, in polarizing the work of a university into productive and non-productive, overlooks the power of traditional disciplines. He mentions the study of tourism in which half-a-dozen of my colleagues and I are engaged. Tourism is of course not itself a discipline at all, but rather a domain of study on which several disciplines may be brought to bear. It so happens that most of us have a background in geography or economics (a non-productive activity?) and we try to use these disciplines to explore, analyse and evaluate the complex and recently emergent phenomenon of tourism. Others are attempting the same task with other disciplines.

How are phenomena like tourism and its impact to be studied if not through the medium of a traditional discipline? It is the power of these disciplines that makes a rational approach to their study possible. It would be a grave mistake, and detrimental to the advancement of the so-called productive work of a university, if there were to be a wholesale attenuation of the so-called non-productive traditional work.

Those engaged in the newer domains of study rely on the established disciplines in their work, even though vocationally orientated (like medicine?). No doubt we shall sometimes make mistakes or follow false trails (as the alchemists and astrologers did), but it is to the traditional disciplines that we look for guidance, and the newer work and the traditional should not be seen as alternatives but as necessary complements.

Yours faithfully,
A. J. BURKART,
Reader in Tourism,
University of Surrey,
Guildford, Surrey.

From the Director of the International Students' Trust

Sir, Unfortunately, Professor Morley's gloomy comment on fees for overseas students (March 26) can be applied to all areas of the world where British prestige and influence still persist.

A week or so ago a computer technologist from a Third World Commonwealth university said to me: "I was brought up to admire British things and I still pass on that wholesome prejudice to my students. But now other countries, such as France, are encouraging my students with scholarships and offering well-paid sabbaticals to junior staff, while you put up your university fees to levels that compel us to send our students elsewhere. Soon there won't be any British influence left. I am sad and baffled: do you know what you are doing?"

Yours truly,
H. A. SHAW, Director,
International Students' Trust,
229 Great Portland Street, W1.
March 27.

Turkey and Armenia

From the Turkish Ambassador

Sir, At a time when international terrorism is extensively casting its shadow on the civilized world I was deeply concerned to read in *The Times* of March 26 what an impartial reader would simply describe as an unfortunate article by Mr Bernard Levin, entitled "What an Armenian remembers". The whole approach of the article confirms that Mr Levin's views are solely based upon some biased and pro-Armenian sources and allegations. Surely a journalist of his calibre, before condemning an entire nation, should have carried out a serious and objective research into the subject. Almost half of his article consists of quotations from a single "study" which seems to be based mainly on Armenian sources.

I wonder why he does not give a full picture of the incidents that took place in that period?

He makes no attempt to examine the reasons why the Turkish and Armenian communities in the Ottoman Empire became two hostile groups at the end of the nineteenth century. When left immune from outside instigations, the Turks and Armenians lived and worked together peacefully for many centuries during the Ottoman era. Allow me to point out that as late as 1912 the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the empire was a gentleman of Armenian origin. There were many other Armenian ministers, under-secretaries, ambassadors, etc.

The historical fact is that the peaceful, law-abiding Armenian citizens of the Ottoman Empire were instigated by some great powers, one of which was Tsarist Russia, mainly through some Armenian terrorist organizations, such as Dashnaksoutioun, Hentchag, Ramgaver and Viragazmian. These powers, and the terrorist organizations which they helped to set up, aimed at achieving the dissolution of the Ottoman Empire as soon as possible. In a way, Armenian citizens of the empire became pawns in the hands of these powers and organizations, and the Armenians allowed themselves to be manipulated by them.

Moreover, Mr Levin prefers to keep silent about the number of Turks massacred (some hundreds of thousands!) by the same Armenian terrorist organizations of that period. If he would take the trouble of examining further the whole question, and particularly the documents in the British Public Record Office, I am sure he would arrive at a very different conclusion.

Mr Levin's crude remarks about Atatürk, to say the least, are most insulting and totally unacceptable. Atatürk's great achievements are well known and admired throughout the world and have so far been amply reflected in *The Times* too. I would strongly advise him to read the works of eminent scholars such as Professor Toynbee, Bernard Lewis, Dr Geoffrey Lewis and Lord Kinross in order to better evaluate Atatürk and his great achievements.

As to Mr Levin's remarks about the present condition of the Armenian community in Turkey, may I remind him that the spiritual leader of this community, Archbishop Kaloustian, in a recent interview, has emphasized his gratitude on behalf of his own community and has pointed out that it was Atatürk who had brought peace and prosperity to the non-Muslim citizens of the country? I am sure that the Armenian Archbishop in Turkey is in a much better position to pass judgment on this subject and on the present situation of the Armenian community in the Turkish Republic.

It is interesting to note that while Mr Levin expresses "great sympathy" for the Armenians who would retain old memories "for another century and more", there are also serious and responsible spiritual leaders of various Armenian communities throughout the world who condemn terrorist acts and advocate reconciliation. As is known, Pope John Paul II has also voiced his concern over terrorist attacks and appealed to the Armenians to refrain from resorting to violence.

Surely your distinguished paper, and Mr Levin with his wide experience, can play a more constructive role in this issue, and contribute to the creation of a better understanding.

Yours faithfully,
VAHAP AȘIROGLU,
The Turkish Embassy,
43 Belgrave Square, SW1.
March 27.

Mountbatten 'coup' story

From Mr Chapman Pincher

Sir, I write in support of Sir Harold Wilson's statement to you (report, March 30) that Lord Mountbatten was in no way involved in any plot to stage a coup to take over the Government in the sixties. I had several long conversations with Lord Mountbatten during the first Wilson premiership and was astonished by the warmth of his regard for Sir Harold, both as a person and as a Prime Minister. At that time I was highly critical of Sir Harold and his administration, but Lord Mountbatten repeatedly tried to convince me that I was wrong, particularly concerning the Labour Government's policy on defence.

I can testify that Lord Mountbatten's high regard for Sir Harold continued into the seventies. I believe that both Sir Harold and Lady Falkender visited Broadlands, though I never saw them there. Lord Mountbatten repeatedly assured me that he was not a "socialist", but there is surely no way that he could be described as "right-wing".

In another *Times* news item yesterday you report that the daughter of Colonel Charles Ellis, who I claim confessed to spying for Germany, believes that I must be wrong because senior MI6 officers came to his funeral service. If a memorial service were held for Kim Philby I do not doubt that there would be a fair turnout of former colleagues from MI6.

Yours, &c,
CHAPMAN PINCHER,
Church House,
16 Church Street,
Kintbury,
Newbury,
Berkshire.
March 30.

Tyre treads case

From Mr I. J. A. McKittrick

Sir, In your issue of November 19, 1980, you reported the case of *R v Tiverton Justices ex parte Smith* under the heading "Magistrates chastised for tyre test" and, contrary to your usual practice, published the names of the justices concerned. The judgment of the divisional court, while pointing out that the justices were in error in failing to realize that a tread-gauge was a sophisticated device for the measurement of tyres, could hardly be said to be couched in castigatory terms; it is presumed therefore that the intent of the court to chastise was deduced from the fact that costs were awarded against the justices.

In fairness to the justices concerned I should point out that the divisional court has since amended that order so that costs of both parties are paid out of central funds. No doubt you will wish to note the fact.

Yours faithfully,
IAN McKITTRICK,
Clerk to the Justices,
Magistrates' Clerk's Office
(Mid-Devon),
Bradninch Hall,
Castle Street,
Exeter, Devon.

Making decisions in wartime

From Field Marshal Lord Carver

Sir, As one who served under Field Marshal Auchinleck in North Africa and held him in great admiration and affection, both as a soldier and as a man, the last thing I would wish to do on the morrow of his death is to rake over the ashes of old disputes. However, I feel that I must attempt to redress the injustice which your obituary (March 25) does to General Ritchie. While Field Marshal Auchinleck himself maintained a dignified silence in the face of public criticism, much of it unjustified, those who have taken up the cudgels on his behalf have followed the line, which your obituary reflects, of putting all the blame for our defeat in the summer of 1942 on General Ritchie and exonerating Field Marshal Auchinleck. General Ritchie himself has also maintained a dignified silence and nobody, to my knowlege, has sprung to his defence.

The gravamen of the charge against Ritchie is repeated in your obituary that Ritchie "disregarded Auchinleck's advice to hold back his armour and concentrate it in a counter-attack against Rommel and instead dissipated his armour in penny packets, enabling Rommel to destroy it".

The facts are very different. Auchinleck wrote to Ritchie seven days before Rommel attacked, forecasting that the latter would try and break through the centre of the Gazala line, while making a feint round the south of Bir Hacheim. He urged Ritchie to concentrate the three armoured brigades of Norrie's 30 Corps in the centre to meet this, attacking Rommel's forces as they emerged from the minefields.

Although Auchinleck had the advantage of access to higher-level intelligence, Ritchie was not convinced that he could disregard the threat of a thrust round his flank, which might have reached his vulnerable forward base area and airfields before it could be countered if Auchinleck's proposal had been accepted.

It was as well that he did not accept it. Auchinleck's forecast proved to be quite wrong, but unfortunately was instrumental in making General Norrie, at least, reluctant to accept the evidence that came in from our armoured cars during the night of May 26-27 that the move round Bir Hacheim was not a feint, but the main thrust. The fact that Norrie's armoured brigades were not concentrated in time to meet it was no fault of Ritchie's.

The blame for it must be shared between Generals Norrie, Messervy and Lumsden. In any case, the armour was by no means destroyed by the end of that day, only one brigade, 4th Armoured, having suffered significant casualties. In the subsequent tank battles the armour suffered its principal losses on June 5 and 12, the days on which it was more concentrated than on any other.

As I have, I hope, made clear in my book, *Tobruk*, the causes of our defeat were varied and complex. General Ritchie faced many grave handicaps, not the least of which was having his Commander-in-Chief constantly "breathing down his neck" both before and during the battle.

To say that Field Marshal Auchinleck's "own appreciation of Rommel's choices had been faultless" is a distortion of history that should not go unchallenged. Ritchie could, with some justification, have attributed a significant proportion of the blame for his defeat to his subordinates; but, in the best tradition of the British Army, he has not done so, and should be respected for it.

I have the honour to be, Sir,
Your obedient servant,
CARVER,
House of Lords.
March 25.

Unions and the economy

From Mr David Fieldhouse and others

Sir, Lord Roberthall (March 18) as ever goes to the heart of the matter. Our economic problems stem from our inability to reconcile low unemployment and high profitability, in short prosperity, with tolerable inflation. In prosperous times the power of organized labour to obtain wage increases is too great, and even in the present slump some unions in the public sector have demonstrated their ability to secure increases well above those in the private sector and well in excess of current and prospective rates of inflation.

A reform of the wage-bargaining system is what is required, but it must be obtained by the agreement of those concerned, and, as Lord Roberthall points out, "all efforts over the last 30 years have failed". They will continue to fail until the need for such reform is openly recognized by our political leaders, and until sufficient of them unite on this issue.

When parties which command 75 per cent of the votes cast (instead of the 44 per cent of the present Government) put this at the top of their list of priorities they will carry sufficient authority to negotiate a more enduring settlement with the unions, the majority of whose members will, in all probability, have voted for the parties concerned. Is it Utopian to hope for this?

Yours faithfully,
DAVID FIELDHOUSE,
R. M. HARTWELL,
NEVIL JOHNSON,
M. F. G. SCOTT,
F. SETON,
Nuffield College,
Oxford.
March 18.

Diminishing returns

From Dr J. Hawgood

Sir, Computers (letter, March 27) can expand mailing lists, too. I received two otherwise identical letters addressed to J. Hawgood and D.Phil.

Yours, etc,
JOHN HAWGOOD,
As from Crook Hall,
Durham City.
March 27.



COURT CIRCULAR

WINDSOR CASTLE
March 30: The Duke of Edinburgh, attended by Major John Cargin, arrived at Gatwick Airport, London this morning from Hong-kong.

His Royal Highness, as Senior Fellow of the Fellowship of Engineering, this evening attended the New Fellows' Dinner at the Apothecaries' Hall, Blackfriars Lane, London, EC4 and was received by the President of the Fellowship (the Viscount Caldecote).

Lord Rupert Nevill was in attendance.

CLARENCE HOUSE
March 30: Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother, accompanied by Princess Margaret, Countess of Snowdon, was present this evening at the Royal Film Performance in aid of the Cinema and Television Benevolent Fund at the Odeon Theatre, Leicester Square.

The Lady Grimthorpe and Captain Alastair Aird were in attendance.

KENSINGTON PALACE
March 30: The Duchess of Gloucester was present today at the Annual Luncheon of the National Cancer Control Campaign at Grosvenor House Hotel, London. In the afternoon Her Royal Highness visited the London Main Season Fashion Exhibition at Kensington Exhibition Centre, London.

Mrs Michael Wigley was in attendance.

YORK HOUSE
ST JAMES'S PALACE
March 30: The Duke of Kent, Colonel-in-Chief of The Devonshire and Dorset Regiment, today visited the 1st Battalion at Thetford, Norfolk.

Captain Mark Bullough was in attendance.

Princess Alexandra will open the War Pensioners' National Homecrafts and Art Exhibition and present awards at the Hoare Memorial Hall, Church House, Westminster, on May 11.

The annual general meeting of the Corporation of King George's Fund for Sailors will be held in the Mansion House, London, on Friday, April 24, at 11 am, by permission of the Lord Mayor. Admiral of the Fleet the Duke of Edinburgh, OM, president of the fund, will be the principal speaker.

Birthdays today

Sir Robert Cockburn, 72; Mr John Fowles, 55; Viscount Furness, 32; Sir Jim Holland, 70; Mr D. J. Rees, 68; the Very Rev Dr G. T. H. Reid, 71; Professor Dame Sheila Sherlock, 63; Canon Charles H. Smyth, 78; Mr David Steel, MP, 43; Mr Sidney Weighell, 59; the Earl of Westmorland, 57.

Marriage

Mr J. V. Ellwood and Miss B. M. Trotter
The marriage took place on Friday, March 27, between Mr John Ellwood, son of the late Captain Victor Ellwood and Mrs Ellwood, and Miss Bridget Trotter, only daughter of the late Lieutenant-Colonel George Trotter and Lady Maryoth Hay.



Death duty painting left in chapel

By Our Arts Reporter

Thirty elderly gentlemen who live at Sutton's Hospital in the City of London, where residents are known as brothers, will continue to enjoy a work by Luca Giordano, the seventeenth-century Neapolitan painter, which hangs as the altarpiece of their chapel.

The painting has been accepted in lieu of estate duty, but provisions allow such works of art to be left in situ after their acceptance.

The painting, "The Visit of the Virgin Mary to her cousin Elizabeth", has been in the chapel for about a decade on permanent loan from Mr Oswald T. Norris, a member of the governing body of Charterhouse, the public school in Godalming that is part of the dual foundation with the hospital.

On his death the painting was accepted by the Treasury in lieu of estate duty.

To mark the completion of negotiations, in the week when the National Heritage Memorial Fund reaches its first anniversary, having taken over the National Land Fund's role, Mr Paul Channon, Minister for the Arts, yesterday formally handed the painting over to Mr Godfrey Thompson, director of the Guildhall Art Gallery, for lending to the governors of Sutton's Hospital.

Thomas Sutton set up his foundation for 80 old gentlemen and 40 scholars in 1611 and in 1872 the school moved to Surrey.

The number of old gentlemen has decreased to 30. Mr Channon said it was the first time since the National Heritage Act was passed a year ago that any picture had been allocated back to where it had previously hung.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr C. J. Milne and Miss E. E. Winnington
The engagement is announced between Christopher John, elder son of Mr and Mrs John Milne, of Chilton House, Alresford, and Emma Elizabeth, younger daughter of Colonel T. F. C. and Lady Betty Winnington.

Mr J. Foulser and Miss C. A. E. Robinson
The engagement is announced between Jeffrey, only son of Mr and Mrs C. W. Foulser, and Clementine, younger daughter of Sir Wilfred and Lady Robinson.

Mr C. G. Bazeley and Miss E. M. St Leger Moore
The engagement is announced between Charles, only son of Mr and Mrs A. G. Bazeley, of Ivy House, Kington Langley, Wiltshire, and Elizabeth, only daughter of Lieutenant-Commander E. S. St Leger Moore, Royal Navy (retd), and Mrs St Leger Moore, of 2 Epple Road, London, SW6.

Mr C. C. Dickinson and Miss L. M. Hart
The engagement is announced between Christopher, son of Mr and Mrs C. I. Dickinson, of Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, and Louise, daughter of Mr and Mrs John G. M. Hart, of Kenley, Surrey.

Dr A. S. Burman and Miss S. J. Granville
The engagement is announced between Anthony Stuart Burman, MB, BS, MRCPsych, DPM, only son of Mrs Bette Burman, of Hendon, London, and Sharun Jasmin, youngest daughter of Mrs Rose Granville, of Rottingdean Heights, Sussex.

Mr G. Giles and Miss T. Bruce-Lockhart
The engagement is announced between Gordon, younger son of Mr and Mrs A. W. Giles of Uckfield, Sussex, and Tanya, only daughter of the late Wing Commander and Mrs R. Bruce-Lockhart, DSO, DFC, and Mrs John Mortland, of Dorking, Surrey.

Mr D. P. Roy and Miss E. F. M. Hay
The engagement is announced between Duncan, eldest son of Mr and Mrs D. Roy, of Whitstable, Kent, and Eleanor, daughter of Dr and Mrs J. M. Hay, of St Albans, Hertfordshire.

Mr R. Slowe and Miss A. Fine
The engagement is announced between Richard, son of Mr and Mrs Malcolm Slowe, of London, NW3, and Amanda, daughter of Mr David Fine, of Shamley Green, Surrey, and Mrs Joyce Fine, of London, W1.

Today's engagements

The Duke of Edinburgh, as patron, Conference on Human Value, attends opening, Festival Hall, 9.40.

The Duke of Gloucester, as patron, British Mexican Society, attends reception, Canning House, 6.30.

Early aviators: Recordings from archives, British Institute of Recorded Sound, 29 Exhibition Road, Kensington, 7.30.

Flower show: Royal Horticultural Society's Hall, Vincent Square.

Livery Hall open to public: Goldsmiths' Hall, Foster Lane, 12, 3.

Talks: "Ben Nicholson", by Sarah O'Brien-Twohy, Tate Gallery, 1; Sir George Solti talking to John Drummond, Waterloo Room, Festival Hall, 6.15; "Releasing resources", by Pamela Warren, Conway Hall, Red Lion Square, 7.

Exhibitions: "Women washing", Francis Kyle Gallery, 9 Maddox Street, 10 to 6; recent Caribbean work by Alan Davie, Gimpel Fils, 30 Davies Street, 9.30 to 5.30; Andrew Holmes, drawings, watercolours and screenprints, Thumb Gallery, 20-21 D'Arblay Street, 10 to 6.

Lunchtime music: Olwen Goodwin Morris, piano, Fairfield Halls, Croydon, 1.05; joint choir concert by Frogmore Comprehensive and Jarvis Collegiate, St Paul's Cathedral, 12.30; Una M. Haines, organ, St Peter-upon-Cornhill, 12.30.

Benin king's head sold for £24,000

By Geraldine Norman
Sale Room Correspondent

A Benin bronze head was the star of Sotheby's sale of primitive works of art yesterday, selling for £24,000 (estimate £12,000 to £18,000) to an English private collector. Sotheby's dated it to the first part of the seventeenth century and it stands 11in high.

It is the head of an oba or king, wearing the characteristic deep choker of beads of most Benin bronze heads. It was sent for sale by a private German collector.

The other top prices were paid for African wood sculptures and took the auctioneers by surprise. Willis, a San Francisco dealer, paid £7,500 (estimate £1,500 to £2,500) for a Vuvi wood mask attributed to the Manlema district of the Congo. The white kaolin-covered oval face has high arched eyebrows, slit eyes and a small nose and mouth.

A Baule wood ancestor figure, 19in high, was sold to a private buyer for £4,000 (estimate £1,500 to £2,000) and a Makonde wood staff carved with two, faceted, curving sections, each terminating in a finely carved human head, went to R. Nasser for £3,100.

Other pieces sold below estimate, however, and the auction totalled £101,939, with 9 per cent unsold.

Phillips's sale of fine nineteenth and twentieth-century pictures totalled £141,810, with 30 per cent unsold; the high percentage reflects a few high-priced failures, including an Edgar Hunt and a Lesrel.

The top price of the sale was £4,600 (estimate £1,000 to £1,500) for James Hayllar's "The wounded finger".

The biggest surprise was a winter scene of a lady and her dogs walking, entitled "Through the woods in the park, on to the ice", dated 1850, by Robert Walker Macbeth, which sold for £3,400 (estimate £400 to £600).

OBITUARY

DR ERIC WILLIAMS

Dominant role in the life of Trinidad and Tobago

Dr Eric Williams, PC, CH, who died in Port of Spain, Trinidad, on March 29 at the age of 69, had been Prime Minister of Trinidad and Tobago since 1961. He was for many years the dominant figure in both the political and the intellectual life of the islands.

By qualifications and temperament he was a scholar and an academic, and it was not until 1956 when he was in his middle forties that he turned to politics. Although he seemed to lack the charismatic qualities and the showmanship which brought so many of his contemporaries in the West Indies and elsewhere to positions of political leadership, his rise to power in Trinidad was rapid and complete, and it was not until the middle 1970s when Williams was well over 60 that his position was seriously threatened by his political opponents.

Eric Williams was born in Trinidad on September 25, 1911, the eldest of 12 children of a local civil servant. He was educated at Tranquillity School and Queen's Royal College in Trinidad, and at St Catherine's College, Oxford, where he got a First in history. He stayed on at Oxford to do research on colonial history and in 1935 a thesis on economic aspects of abolition and emancipation in the British West Indies earned him a PhD.

From Oxford Williams went on to teach at Howard University, the negro university in Washington, and became Professor of Political Science. By the middle forties he had emerged as one of the foremost authorities on Caribbean history and he was invited to join the staff of the Caribbean Commission based at Trinidad, the Caribbean Commission being a consortium formed by the United States, Britain, France and the Netherlands to help the economic and social development of the Caribbean.

It was in 1955 that he left the Caribbean Commission and decided to enter Trinidad politics. As he himself put it—"I have dealt too much in the past years with the historical background of problems and with the statistics: what I intend to do now is to see the living humanity behind the statistics."

He founded a new party called the Peoples' National Movement but broke with local political tradition in that he did not try to get the support of any particular trade union, and he used reason rather than rhetoric at his public meetings. The result, to many peoples' surprise, was that in the elections of 1956 the PNM emerged as the single largest party in the legislature with Williams as the colony's first chief minister. He gained even wider support by the vigorous campaign against the American naval base at Chaguaramas and in the elections under a new self-government constitution in 1961 his party was returned with an increased majority with Williams himself as Prime Minister, a position which he continued to hold when Trinidad became independent in the following year.

Williams had for many years been an advocate of West Indian federation and it was a measure of his high standing in the Caribbean that Trinidad was eventually chosen as capital of the Federation. His enthusiasm for the federation did not last, and he withdrew Trinidad from the organization soon after Jamaica's secession in 1962.

Although the record of the PNM in housing, education, health and social welfare was impressive, and Williams encouraged foreign investment in the oil and sugar industries and other capitalistic enterprises to boost the economy, the continued high level of unemployment in the islands was used by the trade unions and their political supporters to stir up a series of strikes and disorder in 1965 which, as was intended, threatened both the country's economy and its political stability. Williams countered by declaring a State of Emergency and rushing through an Industrial Stabilization Act which in effect made such strikes illegal.

Although Williams and his Party remained firmly in control for the next decade, their strength resulted to some extent from the diffusion and dissipation of the opposition. In the 1970s however the United Labour Front began to emerge as a viable opposition. It derived its main support from the people of east Indian descent working in the oil and sugar industries; it was led by Basdev Panday and Raffique Shah, and encouraged by its associations with Cheddi Jagan in Guyana and Fidel Castro in Cuba.

To try to counter this Party's appeal and take the ideological wind out of its sails Williams, who for a scholar and an academic had a strong sense of political survival, made a series of what were perhaps largely tactical moves to the left, including a visit to China in 1974 and to Russia and a number of eastern block countries in 1975. In the following year he declared Trinidad a republic with a president as head of State and himself as prime minister. In the elections in 1976 the Williams party was returned to power with 53 per cent of the seats.

In his fifth term starting in 1976 Williams began to face new problems as Trinidad and Tobago's increased affluence fuelled material expectations. He devoted his major enthusiasm to building a large industrial estate at Point Lisas on Trinidad's west coast but he was unable to upgrade basic services quickly enough to head off mounting popular criticism in spite of calling on foreign governments for direct project implementation.

He dealt ruthlessly with opposition introducing in 197[illegible] legislation to force the resignation of MPs who switched party allegiance. He played a cat and mouse game with Tobago from 1977 conceding a house of assembly at the end of 19[illegible] but not the meaningful self-rule the island wanted. Although he remained committed to the idea of regional integration his impatience with his Caribbean colleagues became more visible. He refused to attend a regional summit meeting after 1975.

In the last year he resorted to his favourite strategy of silence in the face of a tide of industrial unrest and a series of public scandals. He became steadily more isolated, travelling nowhere, seeing few people and refusing interviews. In 1979 he announced he was taking a back seat and urged the ruling party to identify a successor.

Perhaps one of the strongest tributes to the liberal democratic society he built over [illegible] years in spite of his own autocratic style, was the smooth efficient and constitutional transfer of power to a successor in the 12 hours after his death.

Williams was a prolific writer and remained so in his later years despite the many other calls on his energies. Among his books were—*The Negro and the Caribbean*; *Capitalism and Slavery*; *History of the People of Trinidad and Tobago* (which he researched and wrote to be ready for the independence celebrations in 1962); *Inward Hunger—the Education of a Prime Minister*; and *From Colombus to Castro: a History of the Caribbean 1942-1969*.

He was made a Privy Councillor in 1964, and Companion of Honour in 1969. He was an Honorary Fellow of St Catherine's College, Oxford, and an Honorary Degree of Doctor of Civil Law was conferred on him by Oxford University in 1965. He was also an Honorary LL.D of the University of New Brunswick and Pro-Chancellor of the University of the West Indies.

MAO DUN

Mao Dun, whose death is reported from Peking, was China's best known novelist who made his name in the turbulent era of the 1920s and 1930s with novels that turned their back on the traditional narrative style of past Chinese literature and which reflected the revolutionary passions of a younger generation.

Born in 1896 of a gentry family as Shen Yen-ping (this nom de plume, Mao Dun, meaning contradiction, followed a common habit of such adoptions among Chinese writers) Mao's creative spirit flourished in the brief era when Chinese writers enjoyed a freedom that they had never known in their country's past and have never regained even under the more tolerant attitudes lately current in Peking.

Inspired by the reforming currents of the 1919 May 4 movement, Mao read Tolstoy, Chekhov, Balzac, Flaubert and Zola and found in their influence the way forward for Chinese literature. As a propagandist with the nationalist forces he shared in the hopes of the northern expedition of 1926/27 and made his name with a triology, *Disillusion*: *Vacillation*: *Pursuit*, published in 1930 under the general title *Eclipse*. This reflected his hopes and disappointment in the revolutionary movement in which he had been active and embodied emotions common to all that younger generation of Chinese.

He was active in the League of left-wing writers established in Shanghai in 1930 and like most of its members was drawn to communism as the coherent doctrine of the left. He was attacked by the communists for his "petty bourgeois decadence" but won their approval for what proved to be his most widely read novel, *Midnight*, in 1932. This had a Shanghai setting with the theme of a national capitalism unable to assert itself in a world of foreign influence, of compradores, of the difficulties faced by Chinese nationalism. His heroines were emancipated and progressive; he caught the febrile life of the time and committed himself to the proletarian cause.

After stays in Tokyo, Hongkong, Chungking, he took part in the conference of writers called by the communists in 1949 and served from that year until 1964 as Minister of Culture in Peking as well as editing from 1949 to 1953 the chief literary journal. His influence may have been small. His realism could not flourish under Mao Tse-tung, indeed his creative ability seemed to have atrophied even before communist disciplines were imposed upon him.

Nothing was heard of him after 1964 though he escaped attack in the cultural revolution and only reemerged in 1978 when some moves were made by French writers to propose him for a Nobel prize.

MR G. BILAINKIN

Mr George Bilainkin, a journalist of wide experience, died recently at the age of 78.

He was born on February 12 1903, and educated at Haberdashers' Aske's School and the Athenée Royal, Belgium. As a young man he was joint news editor of the *Jamaica Daily Gleaner* and was subsequently on the staff of the *Leicester Mail* and the Press Association before going out to Penang as editor of the *Straits Daily Echo*.

For a spell he was *The Times* correspondent in North Malaya. He was assistant Literary Editor of the *Daily Mail* from 1934 to 1936, worked for two years for the *News Chronicle* and from 1938 to 1940 was Diplomatic Correspondent of Allied Newspapers. During the Second World War he was special correspondent in Russia for the London *Star* and for American newspapers. He was an indefatigable traveller and in great demand as a lecturer.

Among his published books are: *Hail Penang: Within Two Years*: *Front Page News—Once*: *Poland's Destiny*: *Diary of a Diplomatic Correspondent*; *Four weeks in Yugoslavia*: biographies of Tito and Maisky, the former Russian Ambassador in London: *Four Guilty Britons*: and *Joseph Kennedy's Fateful Embassy*.

He married in 1940 Dr Lilian Rivlin by whom he had a daughter. The marriage was dissolved in 1949.

Luncheons

HM Government
Mr Richard Luce, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, was host at a luncheon given in honour of the Ugandan High Commissioner at Lancaster House yesterday.

Women's National Cancer Control Campaign
The Duchess of Gloucester was the guest of honour at the annual luncheon of the Women's National Cancer Control Campaign held at Grosvenor House yesterday. Miss Judith Chalmers, chairman of the appeals committee, presided and the other speakers were Mr Gordon Bourne, Miss Jean Rook and Mr Leslie Thomas.

Farringdon Ward Club
The Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress, accompanied by Alderman and Sheriff and Mrs Anthony Joliffe, were the guests of honour at a luncheon given by Mr R. F. T. Edwards, president of the Farringdon Ward Club, in Guildhall yesterday. The guests were received by the president, Mr S. Rodgers, senior vice-president, and Mr A. N. Eskenzie, junior vice-president, and their ladies.

British Council
Dr P. A. I. Tahourdin, Deputy Director-General of the British Council, was host at a luncheon at 10 Spring Gardens yesterday for members of the British-Turkish Mixed Commission.

Thorn EMI Limited
Sir Richard Cave, Chairman of Thorn EMI, Sir William Barlow, Engineering Group Chairman, and other directors of Thorn EMI were hosts at a luncheon held at the Savoy Hotel yesterday in honour of Dr Percy Allaway to mark his retirement from the company.

Reception

Prime Minister
The Prime Minister and Mr Denis Thatcher were hosts at a reception held at 10 Downing Street yesterday evening to mark the centenary of the Royal National Mission to Deep Sea Fishermen.

Dinners

Trade Policy Research Centre
Mr Arthur Dunkel, Director-General of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT), was the guest of honour at a Trade Policy Research Centre dinner at the Waldorf Hotel, London, last night. Lord McFadzean of Kelvinside, chairman of the centre, presided. Other guests included:
Lord Soames, the Netherlands Ambassador, the Thai Ambassador, the Indonesian Ambassador, the Malaysian High Commissioner, the Canadian High Commissioner, Lord Greenhill of Harrow, the Hon Douglas Hurd, MP, Sir David Tord, Sir Hugh Corbet, Dr Jan Tumlir, Dr Carlos Penaloza, Sir D. S. Bilton, Sir J. H. Parolle, Sir Frank Belfrage, Mrs Liliana Archibald, Dr G. M. Blom, Mr T. M. Rybczynski, Mr N. Takasawa, Mr Sidney Golt, Sir Brian Hill, Mr E. Bruce Leeming, Mr Gengo Suzuki, Mrs F. Suzuki, Mr Ikvo Kasai, Professor Alasdair MacBean, Mr Borge Blond, Mr Michael Boerner, Mr Jean Bosson, Dr Christian Kudlich.

Apostolic Delegate
The Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress of London were present at a dinner given in their honour by the Apostolic Delegate at the Apostolic Delegation last night. The other guests were:
The Austrian Ambassador, the Ambassador of the Federal Republic of Germany; Mr and Mrs E. A. J. Fergusson, Lady Muir Mackenzie, Lady Kelly, Colonel and Mrs St John Brooke-Johnson, Mr and Mrs Peregrine Bertie, Dr John I. Tanner, Mgr Mario Oliveri and Father Kieran Conry.

GLC
The Chairman of the GLC and Mrs Brook-Partridge entertained the following guests at dinner after a concert at the Festival Hall yesterday evening:
The Lord Bishop of Southwark and Mrs Ronald Bowlby, Admiral Sir Henry and Lady Leach, Dame Shelagh Roberts and Mr Robert Moreland, MEP.

Service dinner

Second Frigate Squadron
Captain A. J. Dunn, RN, Captain Second Frigate Squadron, and the captains and officers of HM Ships Diomede, Antelope, Londonderry and Torquay held a dinner in HMS Osprey, Portland, yesterday to mark the paying off of the 2nd Frigate Squadron (the red 2s), formerly the Portland Squadron. Admiral Sir Desmond Cassidi, Second Sea Lord, was the principal guest, and other guests included Rear-Admiral D. J. Hallifax, Chief of Staff to Commander-in-Chief Fleet, Rear-Admiral D. M. Eckersley-Maslin, Flag Officer Sea Training, and Rear-Admiral G. C. Mitchell.

Latest appointments



Captain J. F. Woodward, aged 48, Director of Naval Plans, Ministry of Defence, who is to be promoted Rear-Admiral and to be appointed Flag Officer Submarines and Commander Submarines Eastern Atlantic in September, in succession to Vice-Admiral R. R. Squires.

Other appointments include:
Lord Gisborough to be Lord-Lieutenant of Cleveland in succession to the late Colonel John Ashton Pounder.

Torquay bridge congress is cut to three days

By Our Bridge Correspondent

The bridge congress at Torquay, now in its twenty-seventh year, has reduced its programme, in common with many others, to three days instead of four. Its weekend matches were rewarded with an entry of 450 players.

The easy winners of the championship teams of four were M. R. Pomfrey and R. D. Bretherton, last year's winners of the championship pairs, playing with D. F. Huggett and C. Bishop. The ladies' teams of four was again won by Mrs H. Westlake, Mrs I. M. Beever and Mrs J. Hall, with Mrs H. Townsend playing in place of Mrs C. Fisher.

Results: Mixed pairs: 1, Mr and Mrs S. T. Collings, 1,795; 2, N. L. J. Davies, Mrs H. Westlake, 1,766. Championship pairs: 1, J. Woolhall, J. J. Griffiths, 472; 2, Mr and Mrs D. Anderton, 449. Mixed teams: 1, G. E. A. Samuels, Mr and Mrs P. Justwick, A. T. M. Jones, 118; 2, Mr and Mrs A. C. Brown, G. E. W. Heaton, C. Smithwhite, 7[illegible]. Men's teams winners: A. C. Brown, P. G. Lawrence, W. Heaton and C. Smithwhite. Ladies' teams winners: Mrs H. Westlake, Mrs I. M. Beever, Mrs J. Hall and Mrs H. Townsend. Championship teams: 1, M. R. Pomfrey, R. D. Bretherton, C. Bishop, D. F. Huggett, 150; 2, Mrs D. Georgevic, Mrs E. Dixon-Green, R. S. Ogg, R. L. Newson, 158. Committee cup: 1, E. F. Poll, D. J. Huiston, M. J. Downey and R. A. Raine, 159; 2, Mr and Mrs A. G. Paker, T. J. Berryman and Miss B. J. Gardner, 141.

25 years ago

From The Times of Saturday, March 31, 1956

From Our Correspondent
Berlin, March 30.—The east German Communist Party conference ended today on a sudden martial note struck by a band of the National People's Party and the entry into the conference hall of a soldiers' delegation bringing brotherly fighting greetings to the central committee. Three hundred or so smart young recruits from land, sea and air units marched in Russian goose step into the gangways between the delegates showing themselves for the first time in the new "traditional" uniform. Their commanding officer took the rostrum to read a pledge which he then handed amid loud acclamation to Herr Ulbricht who was in the chair. Herr Ulbricht came through the conference, as was expected, visibly unscathed.

University news

Oxford
Election:
SOMERVILLE COLLEGE: official fellowship and tutorship in French, Adrianne J. Tooke, BA (Lond), PhD (Cantab).

Cambridge
Elections
ST EDMUND'S HOUSE Research fellowship: D. J. Wallace, research student of the college in Medieval and Renaissance [illegible]. SIDNEY SUSSEX COLLEGE: [illegible]

Appointment
[illegible]

London
Elections:
IMPERIAL COLLEGE: Fellowships: A. M. Wood, MA, Hon DSc, FRS; Sir David Patrick Huddie, MA, Emeritus Professor A. R. J. P. Ubbelohde, MA, DSc (Oxon), FRS, Sir Sidney (Lionel) Martin.

Manchester
T. E. J. Healy, BSc, MD (London), reader in anaesthesia at Nottingham University, has been appointed Professor of Anaesthetics.

Changes of status
Readers: P. E. Lloyd (geography); Mrs Brenda M. Hoggett (law); J. McLoughlin (law); Dr P. J. L. Holt (rheumatology); Dr E. Blanche Butler (cytology (Cellular Pathology)); Dr M. N. Jones (physical biochemistry); Dr C. Price (chemistry); Dr P. H. G. Aczel (mathematics).
Senior lecturers: Dr D. Brooks-Davies (English literature); Dr D. W. Shimwell (geography); Dr S. L. Katzenellenbogen (economic history); Dr B. P. Crossley (history of art); C. M. Wood (town and country planning); Dr J. B. Westwood (operational research in the Manchester Business School and in the faculty of business administration); Dr L. G. Thomas (decision theory); Dr J. M. Currie (economics); Miss Tessa M. Roberts (education in the department of adult and higher education); K. B. Drake (education); M. T. Williams [illegible]

[illegible] analysis of nuclear collective motion; £26,550 to Professor D. M. McDowell for research into the hydroelastic response of a pipeline near to or on a sea bed of various shapes; £25,950 to Professor A. Donnachie, Dr G. Shaw and Dr J. K. Storrow for research into polarization phenomena in the parton model.
Birmingham University: £34,000 to Dr J. Birch for research into regional case control studies of the aetiology of childhood cancer.

[illegible] research into the practicalities of achieving collaboration between hospital-based and community-based services for the elderly mentally infirm; £28,500 to Mr C. C. Cunningham for research into early development in the mentally handicapped; £27,700 to Dr E. Whelan for research into habilitation technology for use with the mentally handicapped.
Dystrophic Epidermolysis Bullosa Research Association: £2[illegible] to Miss Jacqueline B. Weiss for research into collagenolytic enzymes and their inhibitors in epidermolysis bullosa.
Economics Association: £100,000 to Mr R. H. Ryba for research into a curriculum in economics for 14 to 16 year olds.
Nuffield Foundation: £30,000 to Dr D. E. Wooley for research into the role of mast cells in the patho-physiology of the rheumatoid joint.
Science Research Council: £87,[illegible] to Professor W. D. Phillips for research into nuclear structure; £14,000 to Dr J. M. Irvine for research into TDHF [illegible]

Queen's, Belfast
M. J. Cinnamond, MB, BCh, BAO (Belf), has been appointed to the chair of otorhinolaryngology.
Other appointments: [illegible]

[illegible] honorary senior research fellow in pure and applied physics: A. R. Edwards, honorary senior research fellow in palaeoecology: Dr J. C. Nogueira, honorary research fellow in pure and applied physics: William A. Patterson, registered research worker in civil engineering.

Grants
Science Research Council: £55,770 to Dr A. Crowe over three years for research on electron-induced alignment and orientation in atomic hydrogen and helium; £21,[illegible] to Professor H. B. Gilbody over three years for research on charge transfer collisions of multiply-charged ions with atomic hydrogen by translational energy spectroscopy.

Salford
Honorary degrees are to be conferred on the following in July
D. Litt: Mr A. Bernstein.
DSc: Dr J. H. Horlock, Professor M. R. Horne and Sir Robert Telford.
MA: Mr F. Mullineux.

Latest wills

Six groups share £1.3m estate's residue

Miss Helen Marion **Arbuthnot**, of Horsham, left estate valued at £1,314,875 net. After personal bequests and effects she left the residue equally between the London Library, the British Rheumatism and Arthritis Association, The Disabled Living Foundation, The National Trust, the Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings, and the Friends of the Tate Gallery.

Hogg, Miss Nancy Evelyn Lowthorpe, of Salisbury £150,032
Hunt, Dr Thomas Cecil, of St John's Wood, London, consulting physician to St Mary's Hospital, Paddington £111,437
May, Mr Michael Axton, of Chelmsford £335,399
Mitchell, Mr Frederick Shelbourne, of Leamington £245,280
Parry, Mr Guy Richmond, of Andover £126,282
Pavey, Mrs Maud, of Aldershot £597,635
Prestney Mr Herbert Clive, of Wakes Colne, Essex .. £168,227
Skellern, Mr John Henry, of Worcester £213,925
Simpson, Mrs Vera Mabel, of Bournemouth £397,762
Thomas, Mrs Olive Lee, of Cheltenham £225,921
Tyler, Mrs Shelagh Winifred, of Luffenhall, near Stevenage £316,981
Wardle, Mr George Eyre, of Colwyn Bay £215,361
Watson, Ruth Valerie, of Salisbury £184,425

Church news

Appointments

The Rev R. D. Bradbury, curate of Harlescott, diocese of Lichfield, to be Vicar of Buxton St Towns, same diocese.

The Rev J. M. Brierley, priest-in-charge of St Luke, Reddal Hill, diocese of Worcester, to be Vicar of the same benefice.

The Rev J. R. Colebrook, Vicar of St Michael and All Angels, Andover, diocese of Winchester, to be also honorary Canon of Winchester Cathedral.

The Rev A. A. Davies, parish priest of St Faith, Wandsworth, diocese of Southwark, to be parish priest of St John, Walworth, same diocese.

The Rev T. M. Gouldstone, curate at Ware, diocese of St Albans to be priest-in-charge of Ansley, diocese of Coventry.

The Rev C. R. Gower, priest-in-charge of St Gabriel, Cricklewood, diocese of London, to be also priest-in-charge of St Anne, Brondesbury, same diocese.

The Rev H. C. Hall, curate at St Christopher's, Thornhill, diocese of Winchester, to be Team Vicar in the Southampton City Centre parish, same diocese.

The Rev S. W. M. Hartley, priest-in-charge of the united benefice of Snitterfield with Bearley, diocese of Coventry, to be Vicar of the same benefice.

The Rev W. G. Hedley, Vicar of St Stephens, Low Elswick, Newcastle upon Tyne, diocese of Newcastle, to be Vicar of St Aiden, Southcoates; Hull, diocese of York.

The Rev M. J. Markey, curate of Holy Trinity, Reading, diocese of Oxford, to be Vicar of St Joseph the Worker, Northolt, diocese of London.

The Rev. M. A. Moxon, Sacrist and Warden of the College of Minor Canons, St Paul's Cathedral, diocese of London, to be Vicar of the united benefice of Tewkesbury with Walton Cardiff, diocese of Gloucester.

The Rev F. L. Norwood, Vicar of Christ Church, Doncaster, diocese of Sheffield, to be Team Vicar of Hackenthorpe, Sheffield, same diocese.

The Rev M. D. Ratcliffe, curate of St Thomas, Blackpool, diocese of Blackburn, to be Vicar of St Paul, Oswaldtwistle, same diocese.

The Rev B. C. Smith, industrial chaplain in Kidderminster, diocese of Worcester, to be industrial chaplain and Team Vicar in Colchester New Town team ministry, diocese of Chelmsford.

The Rev S. R. P. Spilsbury, priest-in-charge of All Saints, Swindon, diocese of Bristol, to be Vicar of St Peter, Lawrence Weston, same diocese.

The Rev A. W. Warner, curate of Bentworth with Walton, diocese of Lichfield, to be Vicar of St Gregory the Great, Wednesfield, same diocese.

The Rev M. G. Wooderson, minister-in-charge of St Thomas, Aldridge, diocese of Lichfield, to be Vicar of Chasetown, same diocese.

Retirement

The Rev W. I. Sawle, Vicar of St Andrews, Leyland, diocese of Blackburn, on May 31.

Episcopal Church in Scotland

Appointment

The Rev John Walker, curate of St Mary, Broughty Ferry, to be priest-in-charge of St John the Baptist, Dundee.

Retirement

Canon L. A. Stratton, priest-in-charge of St John the Baptist, Dundee, and Synod Clerk of the Diocese of Brechin, on March 31. He is to become an honorary Canon of the Cathedral Church of St Paul, Dundee.

Appointments in the Forces

Royal Navy
REAR-ADMIRAL: I. E. C. Kennon to be promoted Vice-Admiral, April 7, and to be Chief of Fleet Support, Oct.
CAPTAINS: J. G. Watson to be promoted Rear-Admiral, July 7, and to be Port Admiral Rosyth in Aug. R. D. Sinclair to MoD as Ships 4 in GED HQ July 10. J. A. L. Myres to Heels in Cmd, Sept 17. R. I. T. Hoyt to MoD with ACNS(OR) as DNOR, Sept 18. H. C. de Courcy-Ireland to Southampton as Sar Offr (and in Cmd on Comm), March 20.
COMMANDERS: W. J. Bingham for duty with AIB, Aug 5. M. F. Dickens to staff of CDRF AW as SOAW, Sept 1. K. J. M. Ayres to Exch Service with CJTF at CF CSC Toronto, Aug 4. R. Walmsley to MoD (PE) with DG Ships as Chem Naval Nuclear Technical Safety Panel, June 23. A. R. P. Armstrong to be NA and AA Islamabad, June 15. C. M. Rose to Seahawk, July 14. P. Jewell to Thunderer as HSE, June 30. A. R. H. Rogers to MoD (PE) with DGW(N) DSWS as ADSWS (Ships), May 5. R. A. Young to Invincible as METOCO and SIO, June 15. P. A. Rogers to Seahawk as OIC RNSOMO, Aug 29. P. I. Nicholas to MoD with DNOM, June 30.
SURGEON COMMANDER (D): D. S. White to Collingwood as SDS, June 25.

Retirements
COMMANDER: S. M. Tennant, May 22.
CHAPLAIN: The Rev P. Brown, May 21.

The Army
BRIGADIERS: D. E. Dunand to MoD Ord Board as Vice-Pres (Army), April 1. T. D. G. Quayle to 4 Armd Div as CRA, March 30. G. B. R. Horridge to MoD OAD (Ord) (PE) (AE) as DDP, March 27.
COLONELS: R. Gatherole to QEMH Woolwich as SSP DTOL, March 30; C. H. Martin to HAC(V) as Regimental Col, April 1. W. J. Walker to CVHQ RAOC as TA Col RAOC, April 1; J. V. R. Watson to Queen's Div Depot as MO, March 30; G. W. Wilson to HQ Rhine Area as Comd 2 Tpt Gp RCT, April 1.
LIEUTENANT-COLONELS: I. D. Dutton, Glosters, to 1 Wessex as CO, March 30. W. R. Robertson, Green Howards, to 3 Yorks(V) as CO, March 31. A. D. Pratt, RA, to HQ BF Hong Kong as AQMG, April 1. M. G. Spence, R Signals, to MoD as GSO1, April 3.

Retirements
BRIGADIERS: D. F. A. Cowdry, April 2; C. L. Weston, April 6.
COLONEL: G. A. Bowyer, April 6.

Royal Air Force
GROUP CAPTAIN: R. G. Cooper to Naafi HQ as RAF Director, March 30.
WING COMMANDERS (acting Group Captain): A. B. Callaway to HQ 1 Gp as SO Eng, March 23; C. A. Rainbow to HQSTC as CA, March 23.
WING COMMANDERS: S. R. Hill to RAF Coningsby as OC Eng Wg, March 30; E. W. Gosling to HQSTC as ORC 3, March 31; A. Bowie to MoD (AFD) as Est 1 (RAF), April 3; H. Tilton to HQRAFSC as CATCO, April 1; D. J. Hammond to RAF North Luffenham as OC Admin Wg, March 30.
SQUADRON LEADER (acting Wing Commander): R. N. Davidson to 2ATAF Brockzetel as SOC2, April 1.

Medical appointment
AIR COMMODORE (acting Air Vice-Marshal): J. G. Donald to HQSTC as PMO, April 4.

Science report

Environment: Disposing of dioxin

By the Staff of *Nature*

Chemical manufacturers may have a new way to eliminate waste containing dioxin, the highly toxic and carcinogenic by-product created in the production of 2,4,5-T, the weedkiller and herbicide used in many unkempt British gardens and with devastating effect in Vietnam. The compound ruthenium tetroxide will destroy it, and the expensive ruthenium can then be reformed into the original tetroxide using cheap chemicals. Dr D. C. Ayres, of Westfield College, London, says in the current issue of *Nature*.

The process is potentially capable of destroying all the polychlorinated dibenzodioxins (PCDDs), of which "dioxin" is rightly the most infamous. The compounds are extremely stable, and have to be destroyed by incineration at high temperatures (in excess of 1,000°C). This requires a great deal of expensive energy, so the search has been on for a cheap, low-temperature chemical means to destroy them.

One method has been known for a long time, but has been considered impractical for industry: exposure to ultraviolet light when the PCDDs are dissolved in a suitable solvent (methanol or benzene will do). Under these conditions, the solvent donates hydrogen atoms to the PCDD molecules, substituting hydrogen for chlorine and rendering the compounds relatively innocuous. Even "Agent Orange", the Vietnam herbicide, which was heavily contaminated with dioxin, lost half its dioxin after six hours exposure to sunlight in a controlled experiment (although argument still rages about how much dioxin was destroyed in this way in Vietnam).

Dr Ayres' method is an advance on this in requiring no ultraviolet light. Ruthenium tetroxide, a powerful donor of oxygen rather than hydrogen, is soluble in water and in a number of organic solvents such as carbon tetrachloride, the familiar dry cleaning agent. PCDDs will also dissolve in this solvent.

Dr Ayres experimented particularly with 2,7-dichlorodibenzo-p-dioxin (DCDD), which was easily available. Mixed with ruthenium tetroxide in carbon tetrachloride at 20°C (room temperature), half the DCDD was destroyed in the first nine hours, and half the remainder in the next nine hours, and so on. That is to say, the "half-life" of the DCDD in these conditions was nine hours.

At a slightly elevated temperature (30°C), the half-life fell to three-and-a-half hours; and at 70°C it was only 15 minutes. On theoretical and experimental grounds, Dr Ayres argues that all the PCDDs could be similarly destroyed.

He thus concludes that ruthenium tetroxide solutions could be used regularly in industry to clean reactor vessels which have become contaminated with PCDDs; this might also reduce the (already small) level of dioxin which enters the product of a process.

Two uncertainties remain, however. First, Dr Ayres has not yet identified the compounds into which ruthenium tetroxide transforms PCDDs, although he says that in his experiment, after a long enough period, no significant amounts of organic chemicals (complex chemicals containing carbon) remain.

The second uncertainty, and perhaps the more telling one in the end, is that since the experiments are laboratory ones, there is no guarantee that the process will be economic. In the laboratory, the expensive ruthenium tetroxide is converted to the metal ruthenium as the DCDD is oxidized; and the ruthenium can be reoxidized to ruthenium tetroxide with cheap chemicals. In practice, however, the economics will depend heavily on exactly how efficiently the ruthenium can be re-gathered from the pipes and vessels of an industrial plant.

Source: *Nature*, March 26, 1981 (vol 290, p 323).

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THE TIMES
BUSINESS NEWS

EEC reassured on China trade, page 20

The IMF walks a tightrope, page 23

- **Stock markets**
  FT Ind 518.8 down 2.5
  FT Gilts 69.62 down 0.54
- **Sterling**
  $2.2335 up ½ cent
  Index 100.6 up 0.2
- **Dollar**
  Index 100.5 down 0.2
  DM 2.1133 down 27pts
- **Gold**
  $522.50 down $1.7
- **Money**
  3 mth sterling 12⅜-12⅛
  3 mth Euro $ 14⅞-15
  6 mth Euro $ 14⅞-15

IN BRIEF

Shares in money broker suspended

Shares in R. P. Martin, the money broker, were suspended yesterday at 184p. The company has been the subject of bid speculation since Bierbaum, the German money broker, acting with Mr Tom Whyte and Mr Gunter Kreissel, bought a 29.9 per cent stake last November. Yesterday it was announced that Mr Whyte and Mr Kreissel were no longer acting in concert with Bierbaum.

Merger talks between Bierbaum and R. P. Martin broke off abruptly in January and their newly established trading links were also severed.

West Midlands claim to Nissan site

The West Midlands county council is spending £20,000 on sending a five-man delegation representing business and trade union interests to Tokyo with details of five suggested sites in an attempt to win the proposed £200m Nissan car plant. It claims that its lack of status as an assisted area will not prejudice government grants for the project.

Protest strike

The 1,400 workforce at the Elswick Works of Vickers Engineering in Newcastle upon Tyne went on strike after the management announced nearly 50 redundancies and a reorganization of plant. The strike was said to be a protest about the "complete lack of consultation" on the changes, and the men are expected to return to work today.

Blue Circle investment

Blue Circle Industries is planning investment totalling £100m to improve the energy efficiency and reduce manufacturing costs. Two kilns at Northfleet, Kent, will be converted and a new plant installed at the company's site at Shipton-on-Cherwell, Oxford. The programme will be completed by 1984.

Turner warning

Mr Stephen Gibbs, the chairman of Turner & Newall, said in the annual report that some further slimming down in the group's United Kingdom operation may be needed to take advantage of opportunities of an economic revival. The Manchester-based group made pre-tax profits of £6m and 4,400 staff left the group.

Light gilts trade

First-day trading in the new index-linked Treasury 2 per cent 1996 stock, was light. The price held par for most of the day before drifting off to close at £34⅞ per cent. The stock is £35 paid until May 1.

St Joe plea 'dismissed'

A United States appeals court dismissed St Joe Minerals' request to stay a lower court order restraining it from proceeding with defensive moves against Seagram's proposed $45-a-share tender offer, according to Seagram.

Shipbuilders' pay offer

British Shipbuilders last night increased its pay offer to 70,000 manual workers to more than per cent. Its previous offer was 6.8 per cent.

Governor less optimistic than Chancellor over economic upturn

By David Blake
Economics Editor

Mr Gordon Richardson, Governor of the Bank of England, yesterday carefully refrained from adding his voice to that of government ministers who are saying that we have touched bottom in the recession.

At a meeting of the House of Commons Treasury Select Committee yesterday, Mr Richardson said that it was impossible to predict just when the economy would turn. When recovery does come, it will be weak, he said. Last week Sir Geoffrey Howe, Chancellor of the Exchequer, told the committee that the economy should touch bottom some time in the first half of this year.

Mr Richardson did give a firm endorsement to the Government's refusal to slacken the fight against inflation. He said that, if companies and individuals could cut costs by becoming more efficient, growth without inflation should be attainable.

Mr Richardson endorsed the Chancellor's view that destocking the driving force behind the recession in 1980 may be coming to an end. There was still some way to go but it should turn round in the near future.

Although there were some signs of companies starting to order, that was not yet strong or general. And he said that factors such as the loss of competitiveness would tend to counterbalance any recovery caused by stock building.

Mr Richardson's cautious tone provoked some committee members to try to get him to comment on the CBI's prediction that output will fall until the end of this year. He refused to be drawn, saying that the most difficult thing to do was to say exactly "where we are now" in any cycle.

His tone was distinctly less optimistic than that of Sir Geoffrey Howe last week, who drew attention to all the positive factors which he said indicated that an upturn may be on the way soon. Mr Richardson drew attention to the problems currently confronting the world economy.

Higher energy prices had both cut output and forced other countries to adopt tight demand management policy, he argued. This meant that recovery throughout the world would be slow.

Mr Richardson wholly endorsed the decision in the Budget to cut public borrowing. He said that rising forecasts of the public sector borrowing requirement made it essential to do something. Cutting the PSBR would take some pressure off interest rates, and would thus help shift the balance between different sectors of the economy.

Committee members asked him if there were any circumstances under which he would be prepared to advocate a fiscal stimulus during the course of the year, but he refused to discuss hypothetical questions.

The closest the Governor came to criticizing the Chancellor was in a discussion of the windfall tax on bank profits announced in the Budget. He said that he was clearly unhappy about the tax but could not oppose it unless he had an alternative.

He accented the banks had been lending to companies which were in trouble, but declined to comment on suggestions that the net effect of the tax decision could be to impose very large borrowing need on the Government.

The Governor was distinctly cool about any rapid move to monetary base control. He said that changes announced at the time of the Budget ought to be looked on as justified in their own right, though they would not make control of sterling M3 easier.

He did stress that some of the changes—notably spreading the requirement for cash assets to all banks, not just the clearers—would give the authorities the chance to see how a monetary base system might work. But he made a strong plea for leaving the authorities some discretion over the use of interest rates.

He drew particular attention to the fact that Swiss interest rates are still determined partly in line with discretionary decisions by the Swiss Central Bank, which takes into account such factors as the exchange rate.

The Prime Minister has cited Swiss experience as part of the case for swinging towards a monetary base system of control, relying much more on automatic changes in interest rates than does the present British system.

The Governor stressed the extent to which monetary policy now takes account of more than one factor, although sterling M3 is the only one which is subjected to a formal target. He said that the exchange rate was also taken into account, although there was no formal target for sterling parity.

He gave the European Monetary System a warm nod of encouragement, pointing out that West Germany, which is a member of the EMS, is not lax in its control of the money supply.

He reiterated previous statements that the United Kingdom would join the European exchange rate mechanism at an appropriate time, but it is believed that no decision along these lines is imminent.

Whitehall strike may be costing £2m a week

By Melvyn Westlake

The reduction in the flow of tax revenue resulting from the three-week old industrial action by civil servants has forced the Government to borrow an additional £800m, which could cost the taxpayer about £2m a week in interest charges. And it will also have the effect of temporarily pushing up the money supply.

Although the Government is trying to play down the effects of the dispute on finances, there is evidence of mounting difficulties. Mr Leon Brittan, Chief Secretary to the Treasury, denied in the House of Commons yesterday that the action of the civil servants' unions posed any risk to the Government's overall economic management.

The tax money not getting through would eventually be paid, he said. About three quarters of the normal tax revenues were being received by the Exchequer.

Mr Brittan assured the House that, at most, there will be a short-term increase in the money supply which will subsequently be corrected. The main effect at the moment was the inconvenience to the public. But the prospects for inflation would be seriously harmed if the Government gave way and conceded excessive pay settlements.

The Chief Secretary was forced to admit that the borrowing requirement of central government for the financial year ending on March 31 would be £500m to £750m more than given at the time of the Budget. The figure given then was £12,760m.

It became clear in Whitehall later that the increase in government borrowing caused by the civil servants' action was a little higher than the top end of the range given by Mr Brittan. This is because there were some offsetting factors which would, in the absence of strike action, have caused such borrowing to have been lower than expected at Budget time.

Last week civil servants' leaders claimed that their industrial action was cutting off about two fifths of the Government's revenue and had trebled state borrowing.

A Treasury official said that in terms of the gross flows this figure was "in the right ball park". But there were offsetting flows such as VAT repayments which were also not being made. Therefore, the net effect on government finances was somewhat smaller.

If the dispute had not taken place, the Government would probably have borrowed around £560m in March. As a result of the strike action borrowing will substantially be in excess of £1,000m.

Mr Brittan claimed in the Commons yesterday that borrowing would not be higher than the Government had planned. This, however, appeared to be only a semantic point.

What usually happens at this time of the year when there is a strong seasonal flow of revenue to the Exchequer is that the Government reduces some of its outstanding debt in the London money markets.

The drop in tax revenues means that the Government will not be able to reduce this outstanding debt by anything like the amount it had planned. This means that the action of civil servants is not leading to new borrowing but to an extension of old borrowing.

The result is the same. It will still lead to increased borrowing charges. Short-term interest rates in the money markets are around 12 per cent. The short-term nature of the extra borrowing will enable the Government to reverse the position quickly when the delayed revenue eventually flows in to the Exchequer.

Photograph by John Manning

Hongkong deal: Mr Kenneth Baker (right), Minister of State for Industry, and Mr Cecil Parkinson, Minister for Trade, at the Department of Industry yesterday, giving details of the £550m order for the Castle Peak B power station in Hongkong, which was awarded to an industrial consortium led by GEC. The station is the larger of the two in the artist's impression of the Castle Peak site.

Successful negotiations of the deal involved teamwork by seveeral government departments, including the Export, Credits Guarantee Department. The City's largest project financing package is being arranged by Schroder Wagg.

The first of the four planned 660 megawatt units at the station should enter commercial operation in 1986, with all four in operation by 1990. The order was placed by China Light and Power Company and associates, which supply electricity to Kowloon and the New Terrotories of Hongkong, and also supplies some power to the adjacent Chinese Province of Guandong.

Details, page 22
New approach, page 23

Speculation over new Savoy bid

By Andrew Goodrick-Clarke
Financial Editor

Speculation that another bidder would emerge for the Savoy Hotel added £5m to the market value of the group's strategically important "A" capital yesterday. The "A" shares gained 16p to 200p, but Mr Giles Shepard, the company's managing director said that no alternative to the disputed £58m offer from Trusthouse Forte had been received.

"I am sure lots of people are interested, but we have had no approaches", he said.

On Friday the courts are due to hear a summons taken out against the Savoy by Trusthouse. The Registrar will be asked to decide whether Trusthouse can go ahead with a Scheme of Arrangement bid for the hotels group which would enable it to call separate meetings of the Savoy's "A" and heavy voting "B" shareholders.

Trusthouse, backed by the 35 per cent shareholding of the Kuwait Investment Office in the "A" capital, has identified a weakness in the Savoy's defensive position.

If it can persuade shareholders with 75 per cent of the "A" shares to vote for its terms, it will win 51 per cent of the Savoy's votes and thus gain control of the company.

On the question of a counter-bidder, there are two possibilities. The first is that one of the groups which has tried unsuccessfully before to persuade the Savoy board to agree to a takeover will try again, using the same tactics as Trusthouse.

In that case a bidder such as Sir Maxwell Joseph's Grand Metropolitan, or Trafalgar would wait until the outcome of the court action was known.

The alternative is that the Savoy itself, together with Barings, its merchant bank advisers, is busily trying to find an acceptable merger deal to thwart the ambitions of Trusthouse and others whom the Savoy board has spurned in recent years. In that case, the likelihood is that an overseas company would be involved.

Eurofer 'progress' on voluntary steel curbs

From Peter Norman
Brussels, March 30

The European Community's leading steelmaking groups have made further progress towards setting up a voluntary system of production restraint to replace the EEC Commission's regime of mandatory controls which expires at the end of June.

But although the members of the Eurofer steelmakers' club were able to agree on a largely positive statement following an all-day meeting in Luxembourg yesterday, the German steel industry has again put pressure on the Government in Bonn to act against low-price imports of subsidized steel from other EEC member states.

The 15 members of Eurofer said they reached agreement on how to cut back production of reversing mill plate and wide flats—products that make up the second group of rolled products covered by the Commis sion regime.

In the case of hot rolled wide and narrow strip (Group One of the Commission categories), 14 out of the 15 companies were reported to have reached "a great deal of agreement" while a "large convergence of views" on the part of all companies except one was reported in the case of heavy sections (Group Three).

The absence of any reference in the Eurofer communiqué to Group Four, the light sections which comprise coiled wire rod, concrete reinforcing bars and other merchant bars, suggests that a large amount of work has to be done to reach agreement in this area. Eurofer will meet again in Luxembourg on April 2 to try to complete the voluntary pact.

The reference in the communiqué to a dissident company fuelled speculation in Brussels today that Kloeckner-Werke AG is still proving a reluctant partner in the proposed voluntary scheme. In German steel industry circles, however, the conviction seemed to be growing that a voluntary agreement will be reached in the course of this week and Kloeckner will belong to it.

However, the negotiations over production cuts in Group Four are likely to prove difficult. The issue is complicated by the relatively high proportion of Group Four output accounted for by the small independent steel producers which have so far not been involved in the Eurofer talks.

Despite the apparent progress made in the Eurofer negotiations, 10 chief executives in the West German steel industry today sent a telex to Herr Helmut Schmidt, the Chancellor, urging that the cabinet meeting on Wednesday take action to stem the inflow of cheap subsidized steel into the country.

They said that any voluntary production agreement would have to be accompanied by border levies on imported steel to protect the German industry's financial position.

Moreover, they demanded that Bonn should adopt a policy of promoting investments in the steel industry to "neutralize the massive state aids granted in other countries".

The German steelmakers expressed grave concern about the future safety of jobs in the industry. They said the Bonn Government should act even if current unfair competitive conditions were likely to apply for a short time only.

Poland seeks $1,000m bridging loan as debt talks open

By Michael Prest

On the eve of today's meeting in London at which a group of western banks is to discuss with Polish bankers and officials rescheduling the $3,100m (£1,377m) repayments due this year, it is understood that Poland has reiterated its requests for a further $1,000m "bridging loan" and for six months' relief on the payment of principal on commercial loans.

Although such requests can be seen as part of the bargaining position adopted by Bank Handlowy, the Polish foreign trade bank, they could further complicate the negotiations, already made difficult by the uncertain political outlook and by Poland's dearth of foreig ncurrency.

At the latest count Poland's external debts amount to $23,100m. Of that sum, $12,700m is owed to banks and $10,400m to western governments and export credit agencies. Poland also has debts outstanding to Comecon members, chiefly the Soviet Union.

The Poles asked at meeting in Paris at the beginning of March that the $3,100m they should repay to western banks this year be rescheduled. The suggestion came soon after governments had been asked to reschedule the $4,400m Poland owes them.

Since the governments have not made up their minds about this request—partly because the position of the new American administration is not clear—it is thought possible by banking sources that no agreement will be reached at today's meeting. The meeting could be extended to Wednesday.

Western banks in 13 countries will be represented today by a steering committee headed by the Chase Manhattan. Mr Peter Greer, a senior vice-president of the Chase who specializes in Eastern Europe, is moderator of the committee. He will soon hand over the position to another banker.

After the group has conferred in the Armourer's Hall in the City during the morning it will meet the Polish delegation, headed by Mr Jan Woloszyn, deputy chairman of Bank Handlowy, in the afternoon.

Much the biggest problem facing the banks is Poland's request for new financing. There seems little doubt that the banks will have to reschedule existing debts, but there are sharp divisions of opinion over the advisability of making fresh loans.

Poland has estimated its total external financing needs for this year at $10,900m. Debt repayments to banks and governments account for $7,500 of that, while interest payments on current debts will be $2,600m. Another $800m will be required to cover the projected trade deficit.

One unknown factor is how much the Soviet Union is willing to help Poland.

Decline in Polish trade, page 22

Banks look set for more disruption

By David Felton

The results of ballots covering more than 100,000 bank workers on whether the pay dispute should be escalated will be announced before the weekend, and early indications are that there will be further disruption of the banks.

A ballot of 90,000 members of the Clearing Bank Union (CBU) is almost complete and it is understood that the late returns reflect a mood for rejection of the employers' "final" 10 per cent offer and backing for selective industrial action. The union hopes that any action it takes will have a minimal effect on the public.

The union's annual conference opens in Birmingham today and officials hope to be able to announce the result of the ballot before the conference closes tomorrow evening.

It is thought that the employers' threat to close all branches of the banks if the action is escalated has stiffened the resolve of the members of the union, which is not affiliated to the TUC and is traditionally moderate.

Union officials believe that the Budget and latest retail price index figures will have affected the voting. The union is looking for an increase of around 12 per cent to 13 per cent to keep pace with inflation.

Two other ballots are also due to be declared this week in the Banking Insurance and Finance Union (Bifu) on further industrial action to follow one day stoppages

Slice of luck saves Lloyd's from $250,000 golf payout

Risk that's par for the course

A group of Lloyd's underwriters is counting its blessings after an argument over "a few hundred dollars" saved them from having to pay out a $250,000 (£112,200) "insurance" claim from a United States golf promoter.

The promoter, Mr Jack Cooney, had wanted to cover himself against any player collecting a $250,000 "bonus" prize put up to attract extra attention to three early events on the United States professional tour.

The prize would be added to the normal "win" money for any player capable of finishing first consecutively in two out of the three tournaments, all staged in Florida.

Defying the laws of probability, top professional Ray Floyd duly picked up the biggest cash prize in golf history by capturing the Doral Eastern Open in Miami earlier this month followed by the Tournament Players Championship at Vedre Beach.

But for a last-minute argument over the premium, Lloyd's underwriters would have had to foot the bill for the claim which will now be met by insurance companies in the United States.

Mr Jim Yates, underwriter for the Paul Barnes syndicate at Lloyd's and a specialist in this type of "contingency" risk, explained yesterday that his syndicate had initially been prepared to write the business for a £25,000 premium. Such is the psychology of golf at all levels that consecutive events are rarely won by the same player and given the strength of competition on the United States circuit the odds at that rate seemed sound.

However, a late switch of venue—to an easier course for one event—and a few days' time-lag between tournaments was sufficient to cause unease. The reasoning was that after a few days' rest a winning player might just get over the "winner's jitters" enough "to keep his head down" in the subsequent tournament.

"We asked for a bigger premium, but I think it was only about $500", Mr Yates said.

The upshot was that the United States brokers involved took the business back from the United Kingdom group, Minet Holdings, who had introduced it at Lloyd's and placed it with American insurers.

Although policies like this one are frowned upon by Lloyd's traditionalists, who see them as straight bookmaking, a number of syndicates in the market do brisk business covering some of the zanier risks demanded by sports sponsors, particularly in golf.

Mr Yates said yesterday: "We like this sort of risk because it is short tail (the insurers know the outcome within a short period of time) and because overall it is highly profitable." Certainly more profitable, he believes, than writing more conventional business such as fire risks at a time when competition has pushed rates down to uneconomic levels.

"Writing fire business at the moment is like bending down to pick up sixpence and putting your backside through a plate-glass window," he said.

Lloyd's underwriters in contingency business are not always so lucky, however. Last year different syndicates covering another golf sponsor against having to pay out a $100,000 prize if the tournament stroke record was broken, found themselves having to pay up twice when two players achieved the feat.

Richard Allen

PRICE CHANGES

ises

nal Metal	27p to 310p	Nesco Inv	15p to 190p
V Hldgs	17p to 240p	Pifco Holds	6p to 166p
Ord	15p to 755p	P&O Dfd	6½p to 148p
ipperrods	6p to 150p	Steel Bros	17p to 155p
L	7p to 43p	Westland Air	6p to 144p

alls

nglo Am Corp	10p to 675p	Midland	21p to 305p
itainnic	14p to 258p	Minorco	12p to 678p
acken Mines	24p to 158p	Paterson Zoch	15p to 515p
rdine M'son	14p to 186p	Refuge	12p to 232p
slie	22p to 132p	Ultramar	10p to 476p

THE POUND

	Bank buys	Bank sells
stralia $	2.00	1.92
stria Sch	35.35	33.15
lgium Fr	82.75	78.75
nada $	2.71	2.62
nmark Kr	15.50	14.70
nland Mkk	9.55	9.05
ance Fr	11.50	11.00
rmany DM	4.92	4.68
eece Dr	116.00	110.00
ongkong $	12.20	11.60
eland Pd	1.35	1.29
aly Lit	2435.00	2325.00
pan Yn	499.00	474.00
Netherlands Gld	5.46	5.20
Norway Kr	12.61	11.96
Portugal Esc	130.00	124.00
South Africa Rd	2.09	1.95
Spain Pta	196.00	187.00
Sweden Kr	10.77	10.22
Switzerland Fr	4.49	4.26
USA $	2.29	2.22
Yugoslavia Dnr	82.50	77.00

Rates for small denomination bank notes only, as supplied yesterday by Barclays Bank International Ltd. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques and other foreign currency business.

China reassures EEC on trade despite slowdown

From Peter Norman
Brussels, March 30

The Chinese Government today admitted that its economic policies have put a damper on hopes for a rapid increase in trade and economic cooperation between China and the European Community.

But, speaking at the opening of a special EEC-China business week in Brussels, Mr Gu Mu, the Chinese Vice-Premier, claimed that the slowdown would only be temporary.

A 100-strong Chinese delegation is here with Mr Gu to try and convince European businessmen that China is a reliable trading partner and in the long term on attractive market for EEC goods.

Despite the recent well-publicized cancellations of Chinese heavy plant orders, the EEC Commission is hoping that the business week, which it is jointly sponsoring with the Peking Government, should stimulate trade and investment between the two sides.

According to the Commission, the event, which lasts until April 10, is offering a "unique and outstanding opportunity" to representatives of the 300 European companies and banks to discuss practical ways of strengthening their business links with China.

In his address this morning, Mr Gu underlined that the policy of "economic readjustment" initiated by Peking in 1979 after a brief and heady expansionist phase would produce a slowdown in the rate of economic growth in China. But this change of pace did not mean that China would abandon its "open door" economic policy.

In a speech that was clearly designed to assuage fears among European businessmen, Mr Gu said that retrenchment would not affect all sectors of the economy. Agriculture and light industry would continue to be developed at a fast pace.

More investment would be put into energy, communications and transport while the Chinese Government was determined as far as possible to develop its postal and telecommunications systems. "These are areas in which imported technology and foreign investment will be used", Mr Gu stressed.

The business week is taking place at a crucial time. Overall trade between the EEC and China jumped by 41 per cent in 1979, but results last year were disappointing. China's economic restructuring programme resulted in a pronounced drop in Community exports to that country.

The latest figures show that over the first nine months of last year the EEC trade balance with China moved into deficit to the tune of 98 European Currency Units (£52.9m) compared with a 777 ECU surplus over 1979 as a whole.

£2.6m Saudi computer deal for UK company

A £2.6m contract to develop software for a Saudi Arabian government project has been won by Computer Resources of Coventry. Involving 55 man-years of work extending over 30 months, this will provide a comprehensive data-processing system for the general presidency of youth welfare, a Saudi government department which promotes athletic, social and cultural youth activities.

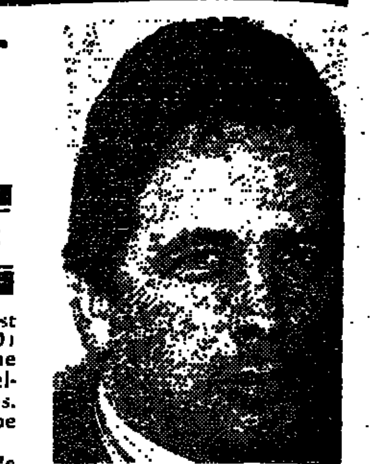
The British company will provide technical support, operation, maintenance and training as well as software writing for the project. In the first phase of the four-phase programme, the firm will establish detailed specifications for the data to be included in the *on-line* database which will be at the heart of the system, and for correlating and retrieving information.

Announcing the contract, Mr Ian Orrock, Computer Resources' chairman and managing director, acknowledged help which had been received from the Export Credits Guarantee Department. But, he said, the company's bankers, National Westminster, were being slow to help in connexion with raising the 5 per cent (£130,000) performance bond which has to be lodged as a standard procedure in such contracts.

A new data centre is to be set up for the general presidency, based on an IBM 4341 computer. Among the jobs which it will handle are the organization of athletic and cultural activities; public services including grants, medical treatment and university sponsorship; central services including statistics, research, training, libraries and international relations; project management for the construction of stadiums and sports centres; and accounting services.

According to the company, this represents one of the largest software development contracts of its type to be won in recent years. Computer Resources was apparently the only United Kingdom bidder for the project.

The contract forms part of Saudi Arabia's third economic development plan. After the initial study of requirements, the subsequent stages of the project will cover software development; initial operation and maintenance of the system; and training of Saudi staff to take over at the data centre.



Mr Ian Orrock: chairman plea to bankers.

Technology News

Long-life battery

Nickel-hydrogen batteries for spacecraft, which should have an operating life in orbit of more than 10 years, have been developed under contract to the International Telecommunications Satellite Organization (Intelsat). Conventional nickel-cadmium batteries begin to lose power after four to seven years in orbit.

The new batteries, which cost over $100,000 (about £45,000) per set, will be used aboard the fifth, sixth and seventh satellites in the Intelsat 5 series, which are scheduled to be launched next year.

The batteries are to be made by the prime contractor for the spacecraft, Ford Aerospace & Communications of Palo Alto, California, from cells supplied (and manufactured under licence from Intelsat) by Eagle-Pitcher Industries of Joplin, Missouri.

Computer manpower

A progress report on reaction to the publication last June of *Computer manpower in the 80s* by the manpower subcommittee of the Electronic Computers Sector Working Party has been published by the National Economic Development Office.

It contains a final report by the subcommittee with comments on the responses of the Government, the Confederation of British Industry, the Trades Union Congress and the National Economic Development Office to the earlier report.

Reaffirming its earlier recommendation that there should be a more effective national focus of responsibility for training, the subcommittee calls attention to the shortage of computer skills caused by the rapid expansion in demand for computers and related products.

"This shortage" they say, "is considered to be the most serious constraint on the development and adoption of computer technology in the United Kingdom." Urgent action to create a more effective training focus is needed.

The CBI in its response says that greater account should have been taken of "the critical and widespread nature of the present and likely future shortages of applications and systems engineers, particularly in the microelectronics field".

Manpower subcommittee final report, published by NEDO, London.

Spacelab supplier

Pre-launch checks on experiments on board the European Spacelab orbiting laboratory which is to be carried into space in the cargo bay of a space shuttle vehicle from the United States will use data recording systems supplied by SE Labs (EMI) of Feltham, Middlesex.

Under a $2.7m (about (£1.2m) contract placed recently by the United States National Aeronautics and Space Administration (Nasa), EMI Technology of Stamford, Connecticut, is to supply 13 high-density digi[tal] recording systems for [the] Goddard space flight cent[re], Greenbelt, Maryland; the Joh[n]son space centre, Housto[n], Texas; and the Kennedy spa[ce] centre, Cape Canaveral, Flori[da]. Options for five further un[its] for the Kennedy centre are a[lso] included.

Both SE Labs (EMI) and E[MI] Technology are members of [the] Thorn EMI group. The syste[ms] will be engineered at the [...] development centre at Wel[...], Somerset.

The Spacelab is being bu[ilt] for Nasa by the European Spa[ce] Agency and European indust[ry]. Located in the cargo bay of [the] space shuttle orbiter, it w[ill] provide a "shirtsleeve" wo[rk]ing environment for scienti[sts] to conduct experiments in ear[th] orbit.

Flexible alarm system

A microprocessor-bas[ed] alarm signalling system wh[ich] offers flexibility in changi[ng] the sequences of alarm displa[ys] and other warnings has be[en] developed by Processor Tec[h]nology, Glasgow, with suppo[rt] from the National Resear[ch] Development Corporation a[nd] the Department of Industry.

Known as Proalarm, the sy[s]tem can operate wherever i[n]dustrial process monitoring [is] required, such as in pow[er] stations and chemical plant[s]. In conventional systems usi[ng] relay logic or modular ele[c]tronic techniques, extending [or] modifying the system can [be] difficult, expensive and tim[e] consuming.

In the Proalarm system, t[he] alarm sequencing data are f[ed] on to a memory microcircu[it] by means of a special progra[m]ming unit. This enables t[he] user to specify his own alar[m] sequence, or alter the sequenc[e] simply, economically an[d] rapidly, by programming a ne[w] memory device.

Note the name

The correct name of the co[m]pany, reported last week, whic[h] makes the laser unit used to c[...] the security thread in the ne[w] Bank of England £50 note [is] Electrox, of Arlesey, Bedfor[d]shire.

Kenneth Owe[n]

Universities economic signatories

Aberdeen University: J A Cairns, Professor M. Gaskin, A. H. Harris, A G. Kemp, P D Murphy, D. A. Nowlands, Professor D W. Pearce, R. Shaw.

Bath University: Professor D. Collard, R. P. Kamat, P. Mosley.

Birmingham University: R. E Backhouse, R Clarke, D. G. Dickinson, M. G. Kanbur, Professor M. A. King.

Bradford University: Sir Fred Atkinson (Professor), J. E. Dunworth, M. Wilkinson, P. R D Wilson.

Bristol University: J Beath, R. Berry, A. A. Brewer, J Broome, M. J. Browning, Professor W. H Buiter, M Clarke, Professor A S Deaton, M. Irish, I. Jowitt, R Lecomber, H. S. B Rees, D C. Webb D Winter, L. A Winters

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Cardiff, University College: C Baber, D. Barry, J. S. Bonnell, R. Blackmore, T Boyns, B Curry, Professor K. D George, G. Harbour, G. C. Hockley, Professor Sir Bryan Hopkin, C J. McKenna, R McNabb, L Mainwaring, S Owen, M. Phelps, D. G. Rhys, J Shorey, D R. Thomas.

City University: J. Ansar, N. Bosanquet, P. Cook, D. Gray, Professor C. D. Harbury, P. Holl, K. R. Kirton, T. E. Tutton.

Dundee University: P. G. Chapman, A. A. Lonie, C. M. Lyntag, M J. Tooze.

Durham University: R. A H Middleton, P A. Winston.

Edinburgh University: M Fransman, D. H. R. George, L. T. Oxley, G. C. Reid, C. J. Roberts, S T. Sayer, Professor P. Vandome.

Glasgow University: G. C Abbott, P B Beaumont, N. G. Clark, M. W Danson, J Foster, Professor L. C. Hunter, C. Kay, J. L Latham, W. F. Lever, D Maclennan, R G Milne, E R. Rado, L. Sirc, Professor A S. Skinner, Professor A Slaven

Hull University: Professor J. S G. Wilson.

Keele University: S. A Hussain.

Kent University: A Carruth, M A H Katouzian, M. T Sinclair, W Smith, Professor A P Thirlwall

Lancaster University: H. W Armstrong, V. N. Balasubramanyam, J. Channon, R. W Daniels, J Fender, J E King, Professor A I Macbean, C Magregor-Reid, D T Nguyen, N Oulton, D. J Payne, P. Regan, M. B Rose, R Rothschild, P N Snowden, J Taylor, Professor H. Townsend, P. M. Westall

Leeds University: Professor A J Brown, J A Charles, H J Radice, J S. Rothwell, Professor M J Surrey

Leicester University: D K. Bhattacharyya, Professor P M Jackson

London University, Birkbeck College: F Atkins, M Ball, R. Bennett, L Brunskill, H Davies, B Fine, G Kennally, Professor J. Muellbauer, Professor P Portes, R. P. Smith, D Snower, A Spanos

Imperial College (London): S G Hall, H Motamen, D Shepherd, Professor Z A. Silberston, R. N. Strange, J. N. Turk

London School of Economics: Professor A B. Atkinson, Professor P Dasgupta, J Davidson, C R S Dougherty, J. Le Grande, K Klappholz, A. Marin, Professor M. Morishima, Professor S J Nickell, J Sutton, Professor P. J. D. Wiles.

Queen Mary College (London): R J. Allard, J S Cubbin, Professor B. A. Curry, H. S E Gravelle, Professor M H Peston

University College (London): Lord Balogh, W. Carlell, G. Calephores, C Hrady, Professor P. D Henderson, A Markandya, M Pemberton, K Schott, Professor J Spraos, N. Stewart, D Ulph, R Vaughan, D Verry.

Manchester University: Professor M. J. Artis, J. M Currie, P Devine, M. C Kennedy, C H Kirkpatrick, P F. Leeson, Professor J. S Metcalf, T. Peach, W Peters, D L Purdy, J. B Slater, Professor I. Steedman, P. G Stubbs.

National Institute for Economic and Social Research: P S. O Brien

Newcastle University: A R Shah

Nottingham University: J M. Bates, K A Ingersent, A. H Jennings, Professor J Mitchell, Professor J R Parkinson, Professor A J. Rayner, G V. Reed, Professor J H B. Tew, D. K. Whynes, R J. Young.

Oxford University: B. Banerjee, [...] Beckerman, C J E. Bliss, Profess[or] Sir Alec Cairncross, A Graham, M [...] Kaser, V. Joshi, K Mayhew, A Osw[ald], Lord Roberthall, D Robinson, B. [...] Rosewell, Professor A. K Sen.

Queen's University (Belfast): Profess[or] P D. G Black

Reading University: Professor P E Hart.

Sheffield University: R Clarke, P[ro]fessor G Clayton, D J Goacher, [...] Kitchin, R. Lawson, J. Peirson, S [...] Tebbutt

Southampton University: C J Harb[...], Professor K. Hilton, G W. McKenz[ie], Professor G E Mizon, R. J O'Brien, Professor D C Rowan

Stirling University: F. J W N. B[...], Professor C V Brown, M. S Comm[...], G Evans, D Ghosh, R. T Hamilt[on], P G. Hare, C Normand, R Shone

Strathclyde University: R G Brech[...], Professor A. I Clunies-Ross, K Har[...]cock, J Scouller, P T Wanless

Sussex University: Professor T. Barke[r], P Lesley Cook, P Holmes, D. Hun[...], Professor D Winch

Swansea, University College: N. Be[...]nent, D Donnelly, J T Harris, L [...] Hunt, I Jeffries, H C Petith, D E Thomas

University of East Anglia: D Bail[ey], Professor K N Bhaskar, S. W Davi[es], M Dietrich, A. E B. Heading, Profess[or] H F. Lydall, Professor A Parikh, Pro[fessor] A G Schweinberger, J T Th[or]burn

University College of North Wales, Bangor: Chakravarty, J Fletcher, E [...] Gardener, R H. Gray, A. J. Hopkin, R R Mackay, Morrell, Profess[or] J R S Revell

University of Wales, Institute of Science and Technology: N F B. Albright, P R Bridger, Professor Glyn Davi[es], J W. Evans, G M. Holmes, T [...] Taylor, D R Turner.

Warwick University: J Brack, P B[...]ridge, Professor K. Cowling, Profess[or] A G Ford, M Harrison, C G Hassel[...], N J. Ireland, K. G. Knight, P. J La[...], D Leech, Professor M Miller, S [...] Nath, G Renshaw, J I Round, [...] Sadler, M Salmon, A Snell, Profess[or] N. H Stern, M. Stewart, P Stoneman, P A Weller

York University: D Austen-Smith, R. [...] Barnett, P Burrows, Professor C [...] Feinstein, K Hartley, J. P. Hull, J. [...] D. T Jenkins, P J Lambert, J. [...] Malcolmson, A K Maynard, D S [...], P. [...]kill, J W Posnett, M. Sawyer, [...] Solar, J. Sutkling, G B Smith, R. B Weir, Professor A. Williams.

Barclays 1980

The impact of high interest rates.

The Annual General Meeting of Barclays Bank Limited will be held in London on April 29th, 1981. The following are extracts from the address to the Stockholders by the Chairman, Sir Anthony Tuke, for the year 1980.

Our profits of £523·5 million are about the same as in 1979 and can be regarded as satisfactory. In part they reflect the fact that the clearing bank has enjoyed the benefit of high interest rates in this country though some of this benefit has been eroded by increased costs. These must concern us when rates come down, as they almost certainly will during the next few months. In addition, our customers have, not surprisingly, been quick to realise the advantage of placing funds on interest bearing deposit rather than leaving them on current account.

We have during the last few months been subject to a degree of criticism, mainly in the political field, for what are called large windfall profits. This is not entirely surprising since throughout history lenders of money have never been all that popular. In the past, however, when a country has suffered a major recession its bankers have suffered also but this recession is different, with high interest rates ensuring that the tribulations of industry are not shared by the banks. Indeed it would not be altogether unreasonable for our borrowing customers to go further and observe that some of their profits are being absorbed by high interest rates which find their way into the profit and loss account of the banks; but these high rates are not of our making as they are part of the Government's policy and I am sure our stockholders expect the Board and management of the bank to run their affairs competently and prudently, whatever the state of the financial wicket.

A recession with high rates for any length of time invariably brings with it a sharp increase in our provisions and stockholders will see that we have had to set aside £102·9 million this year for specific provisions, plus a further £31·6 million for what we call general provisions against lendings already in our portfolio but not yet identified as doubtful. These increased bad debts are one important factor which must be set off against the benefit the clearing bank receives from high rates. Even more important is the effect these high rates have on other parts of our Group. They are a disadvantage to Mercantile Credit Company, our consumer finance arm, and they are a disadvantage to Barclaycard, both of which raise almost all their funds in the market. Apart from that, Barclays Bank International gets very little benefit from high rates in this country and obviously suffers from a strong pound which some people consider is a corollary of high rates. So looked at from the point of view of the Group as a whole and bearing in mind the substantial contribution these divisions make, it is particularly encouraging that there is a strong underlying level of profitability on which we can rely when interest rates fall to more acceptable levels.

Bankers have an additional responsibility in today's conditions and that is to do everything possible to see their customers through the present rough water, in some cases going beyond the bounds of normal banking judgment. This we are certainly doing in a number of areas and we hope thus not only to preserve the jobs of men and women who might otherwise be unemployed but also to preserve worthwhile businesses for the future.

International

On the international side, we have had a good year, especially when one looks at the strength of sterling against the other main currencies in which we trade. The satisfactory profits of the clearing bank have enabled us to capitalise and strengthen BBI's policy of expansion and diversification in the more stable growth areas of the world. This not only broadens the foundations of the Barclays Group but will provide important sources of foreign earnings for the country when the flow of North Sea oil is reduced.

In the United States we have in the past two years invested about $400 million. In 1980 Barclays-American Corporation took over 138 offices of Beneficial Corporation and in December completed the purchase of the finance company subsidiary of the very important Aetna Life and Casualty Company. This means that Barclays American Corporation now has 484 branches in no less than 36 states with balance sheet footings of more than $2 billion and is thus becoming a real force in the market. We also acquired 31 branches of Bankers Trust in Long Island for Barclays Bank of New York and have recently opened offices of BBI in Miami and Seattle, in addition to those we already have in eight other cities. In the Far East we have acquired the minority holding in Trident International which will enable the company, under its new name Barclays Asia Limited, to provide its merchant banking services in support of the Group throughout the region.

A significant worry facing international banks today is what is called country risk. This is partly political but the greater risk is because a number of less developed countries, which are already suffering from the recession affecting the developed countries' ability to buy their products, might, however hard they try, be unable to pay the ever increasing cost of their oil imports. These less developed countries could, as a result, find difficulty in servicing existing loans. Our responsibility to stockholders forces us to take a realistic view as to how much of the Bank's capital and reserves should be at risk to this or that country. This is a problem to which we are constantly alive and in order to improve our ability to monitor the level of risks which we adopt in different countries and also in different industries, we have recently revised the structure of our international lending lines and gathered them together in a Central Advances Department in London. We are confident that this enables us to combine prudence with a continued ability to seek out and grasp attractive opportunities for business around the world.

World recession

The Brandt Commission report points clearly to the disastrous results of what has been called "oil-fired stagflation" throughout the world. It is a strange and regrettable fact that whereas the comparable standard of living of the 20 richest countries of the world narrowed considerably during the last 25 years, the gap between us and the 30 or 40 poorest countries continues to widen, aggravated by the ever increasing price of oil. It would need a super-optimist to forecast that the price of oil and other energy will somehow come down. This is a fundamental change since the middle seventies and is almost certainly irreversible but surely the increasing gap between what is now called North and South is reversible; it is clearly in the interests of the North to see that it is, as we are traders and badly need to see an increase in world trade at a time of recession and high unemployment.

It will not be easy for the international banks to shoulder any more of the burden of recycling funds to the countries which need them most; there have recently been suggestions that the IMF and the World Bank might raise money from the market and then decide how to onlend it. They inevitably have more muscle than we have and also better access to details of the borrower's position. This would be a positive step forward and we in the private sector must recognise that there is a clear mutuality of interest between Governments, supra-national bodies and ourselves, in both the economically advanced and the less advanced countries in grappling with these critical issues.

Our Merchant Bank has had another satisfactory year. Its pre-tax profits, although marginally up on 1979, do not demonstrate the progress that has been made in the last two years. When it was established a number of years ago, we consciously took the decision to ensure it was closely identified with the rest of the Group. We did this in order to emphasise our intention to provide all the various financial services which might be required by our customers. Over the past two years we have continued to widen the range of its services by increasing the number and quality of specialists thereby improving the flow of profitable business to other parts of the Group. We have also strengthened the links between our merchant bank in London and our merchant banks operating abroad in South Africa, Australia, Hong Kong and elsewhere.

Of particular interest, given the concern shared in all quarters about the strength of the small and medium sized companies sector, is the growth of Barclays Development Capital Limited, which we set up specifically to provide new or replacement equity capital for private companies. Working closely with the clearing bank's local head office structure, this company is ready to assist with equity participation of £100,000 or more by way of replacement capital, or as part of a management buyout. Indeed, it is encouraging that by 31st December 1980 Barclays Development Capital Limited had invested £2·79 million by way of equity finance in the UK and that at the time of writing it has offered or invested a further £1·4 million.

The Trust Company continues to provide a most important service, both to the clearing bank and to BBI. Traditionally it was confined, as its name suggests, to the administration of trusts and estates and the provision of advice on personal income tax, but in recent years there has been considerable expansion in the corporate business sector, notably in pension fund and property management. Our Unicorn trusts have done well this year and it is very satisfactory to see an increased contribution from the Trust Company in 1980.

Social responsibility

Our stockholders will see in the Report and Accounts that in 1980 we made donations of £1,129,218 in this country. If one adds what our subsidiaries gave in various parts of the world, plus a proportion, at least, of our sponsorship budget, some of which almost amounts to patronage, we reach an overall figure of £2,474,957. A further important contribution within the Group is the BBI Development Fund which, since its foundation in 1970, has provided support totalling £2,089,659 almost entirely in the poorer countries in the world. Above all however, we must bear in mind that these funds do belong to our stockholders but we know well that they support us, particularly at a time of good profits, in returning to the community a proportion of those profits.

As part of our policy, we allocate a substantial sum each year to what we call Social Responsibility. In these cases we actively seek causes worthy of support rather than wait until we are approached; as one would expect we are not short of approaches and last year we received more than 4,000 appeals. During the last few months, the Arts have figured prominently and clearly we should not neglect them, even though any support we can give is relatively insignificant in relation to the Arts Council's budget of £80 million. Stockholders may however like to know that during 1980 we supported the Royal Opera House Covent Garden, Sadler's Wells Royal Ballet, the Royal Shakespeare Company, the Mermaid Theatre and perhaps most important of all since the very survival of the Company now depends on private patronage, the D'Oyly Carte performances of the Gilbert and Sullivan operas. We are also sponsoring a new production at the English National Opera in 1981.

It is perhaps permissible for someone writing his last report to stockholders to look back, albeit briefly, over the last thirty five years and at the same time indulge in the luxury of peering into the eighties. Based on my experience during the 1950's and 1960's in the front line of money lending, I believe that lack of flexibility was our main weakness. We were all taught that the greatest sin of all was borrowing short and lending long, and certainly the experience of some lesser banks in the middle 1970's seemed to underline that particular sin. At the risk of being a heretic, however, I believe we were too wedded to the traditional adage of what was and what was not "a banking proposition." Banking propositions now cover a much wider spectrum and a number of new ideas have emerged during the last few years, but perhaps we should have grasped the medium term nettle twenty five years ago. This would have provided a valuable facility, not least to enable the smaller businesses to have easier access to money for modernisation and re-equipment. We failed to appreciate the paradoxical fact that our most stable and long term deposits are our current accounts – technically repayable on demand. If we were slow to provide a flexible package we must also record the fact that we had a ready ally in the Government of the day, whichever party was in power, since seldom during the last 35 years have we been free of some sort of restriction on our lendings, whether qualitative, quantitative or both.

Prospects

What then does the future hold in store for the clearing bankers? I believe we must be prepared to think of ourselves as universal providers of finance, at least in this country. With an extensive and expensive network of branches, we must make sure that we are able to offer every form of finance for all our citizens and this will certainly include a mortgage. Even more important than the provision of finance, is the ability to compete effectively for savings and we must make sure that we find means of marketing new schemes as they arise. One of our customers told me the other day that he felt the clearing banks were not sufficiently distinguishable from each other and one must admit that we often read in the papers that the "high street banks" have done this or that, as if we were all of the same mould; expressions like "shades of grey" come to mind. This is not entirely fair but in the eighties we will have to face a challenge to create for ourselves a special ethos so that new ideas, both in the savings and the lending field and covering our private and corporate customers, will come to be linked with one particular bank. Perhaps the only major original package that has emerged in the last fifteen years has been the birth of Barclaycard in 1966. It was not a particularly easy delivery but has now grown into a sturdy teenager and it is rather satisfactory to see that Chambers Dictionary now includes Barclaycard as an accepted noun in our language.

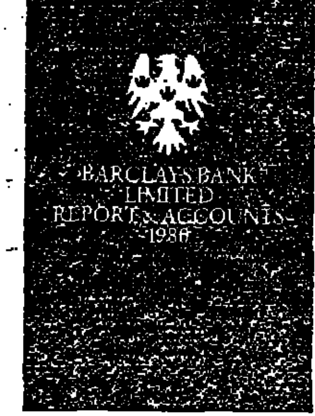
Any bank, particularly one as widely spread as we are, might claim to have the most up-to-date computer equipment and premises as good as any in the world, but it will not face up to and match its competitors unless the men and women in the organisation are competent, loyal and hard working. Stockholders are, I am sure, aware that the key element in the success of our Bank is the ability of our staff in more than 75 countries to accept the inevitable day-to-day aggravations and look after our customers cheerfully and efficiently.

I hope we can claim that the Barclays' torch is burning brightly in 1981 and I am delighted that our Board has asked Timothy Bevan to take it up after the Annual General Meeting in April. We have worked closely together during the last twelve years and, like many of us, he has spent all his working life in Barclays. Stockholders will, I know, be particularly pleased that he will lead and serve the Bank in the years to come.

Anthony Tuke

Sir Anthony Tuke, Chairman of Barclays Bank Limited.

The Barclays Bank Report and Accounts gives a comprehensive review of the Group's activities in the UK and around the world. To obtain a copy, just send this coupon to the address below.



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Political and economic problems cut imports from UK by half

Concern over fall in Polish trade

Trade with Poland, Britain's second largest market in Eastern Europe after the Soviet Union, is already showing sharp declines this year in the wake of the Pole's political and economic troubles.

Provisional figures for the first two months of this year compared with last show a 42 per cent decline in British exports to Poland, and Polish imports into Britain were down 47 per cent.

The declines were described yesterday as "very worrking" by the East European Trade Council whose executive secretary, Mr Anthony Hore, believes it could take some years for trade to recover.

Mr Hore said: "All of us hope that companies who have invested time and money developing the Polish market will not pull out, because in the final analysis this is a big country with a lot of natural wealth, like coal and other resources."

Although British exports to Poland were up more than 13 per cent last year compared with 1979, declines in several sectors were beginning to show up in 1980. Various forms of machinery were down as much as 60 per cent, although the total machinery and transport equipment sector was up rather more than 22 per cent.

Part of that increase was affected by the continued deliveries under the controversial £115m shipbuilding deal in which British yards were constructing 24 vessels for the Poles. Possibly a quarter of the value of the machinery and transport equipment sector was accounted for by ship deliveries.

The other big jump in United Kingdom exports to Poland was of unmilled barley, up by more than 90 per cent over the 1979 totals. The Poles, hit by two bad harvests, needed increased supplies of cereals, and a number of special financing deals have been made to allow them to import more.

The level of Polish imports from Britain—worldwide, Poland ranks twenty-eighth in value as a market for British goods—also depends on the debt-laden Poles getting continued financial help. Britain's Export Credits Guarantee Department has more than £160m committed to lines of credit to Poland, and for the first querter of this year allowed a £16m refinancing to help relieve the Polish authorities of some of their payment obligations on earlier credit.

Talks are in progress on longer-term arrangements for the underpinning of Polish trade. Subject to these, ECGD cover for short-term commercial contracts is expected to continue on its preent basis.

Polish exports to Britain in the first two months o fthis year appear to have been affected across the board. Last year Polish exports were down just over 15 per cent. with some areas such as non-ferrous metals declining by 60 per cent. Coal, one of the country's most productive exports, was down 31 per cent after a fall in coal production in Poland. There have been reports that worldwide Polish coal exports are down about 28 per cent in recent months.

But some materials supplies have been kept up, notably fertilizers, minerals, hides, iron and steel. But among manufactured goods, vehicles plunged 32 per cent, although footwear rose 16 per cent.

Although the burden of Polish international dept underlines its need for exports, the fate of the £200m Massey-Ferguson and Perkins engines licensing deal for tractors and engines has demonstrated the difficulties of generating such exports. Imported components have put such a strain on the country's need for hard currency that production in Poland of tractors and engines is well under target and none has yet been exported to earn currency.

Derek Harris

ANGLO-POLISH TRADE (£m)

	1979	1980	Percentage change
Polish exports to UK			
Meat	17.7	17.6	−0.6
Hides and skins	18.5	21.5	+16.2
Cork and wood	25.4	22.9	−9.8
Crude fertilizers and minerals	13.4	16.7	+24.6
Coal	19.3	13.3	−31.1
Iron and steel	9.3	11.7	+25.8
Road vehicles	15.0	10.2	−32.0
Footwear	11.2	13.0	+16.1
Non-ferrous metals	11.1	44	−60.4
All other goods	88.4	63.2	−28.5
Total	229.3	194.5	−15.2
Polish imports from UK			
Cereals (unmilled barley)	32.1	61.8	+92.5
Machinery and transport equipment	99.7	122.0	+22.4
including:			
specialized mach	(14.6)	(13.9	−4.8
metalworking mach	(20.2)	(7.7)	−61.9
general ind mach	(30.0)	(23.2)	−22.7
electrical mach	(8.1)	(5.0)	−38.3
Artificial resins and plastics	7.6	12.1	+59.2
All other goods	121.2	100.4	−17.1
Total	260.6	296.3	+13.7

Source: Department of Trade



Threat to Japanese jobs by car export cuts

As Japan and America try to agree on a voluntary restraint figure of car imports into the United States—1,819 million units in 1980—Sumitomo Bank in Tokyo said that a 10 per cent drop in Japan's car exports to America would lead to the loss of 4,700 jobs.

The bank released the results of its study on the impact of a decline in car exports to America as the two countries attempt to defuse the tension generated by Japan's increasing shipments.

Sumitomo economists said that, if Japan's car exports to the United States fall 10 per cent from 1980 while shipments to the other countries remain at their 1980 levels, employment in the car industry and related industries, such as steel and petrochemicals would decline 47,000 and the country's real gross national product would go down 0.14 per cent.

If car exports declined 15 per cent from 1980, the bank economists predicted, that 70,000 Japanese would lose jobs and the real g.n.p. would decline 0.21 per cent.

Desert pipeline

Work has begun on the eastern half of the Saline Water Conversion Corporation's 466-kilometre water pipeline from Jubail to Riyadh in Saudi Arabia. Nacap, the Dutch contractor said that 35 per cent of the pipeline had been prepared and that welding was expected to begin sometime next week.

Investment in Spain

The Spanish Government has approved measures to reduce the number of departments a foreign investor will have to go through to invest in Spain.

Amazon venture

Japan's National Oil Corporation (JNOC) said it plans to send a survey mission to Brazil in April or May for feasibility studies on joint oil development with Petrobras in the upper Amazon area and an offshore area.

Car registrations

The foreign market share of new passenger car registrations in West Germany during the first two months of 1981 rose to 29 per cent from 24 per cent in the year-earlier period, according to West Germany's Federal Motor Vehicle Registry.

£550m Hongkong power plant order for GEC confirmed

By Kenneth Owen

Britain's largest power plant export order, for a £550m, 2,640 megawatt coal-fired power station for Hongkong, was confirmed yesterday in a joint announcement by Mr Kenneth Baker, Minister of State for Industry, and Mr Cecil Parkinson, Minister for Trade.

The ministers said that agreement on the sale had been reached, between China Light & Power Company with Eastern Energy (an Exxon company) and GEC Turbine Generators of Rugby. Formal contracts are expected to be signed by August 1.

The contract is for the design and supply of a second power station on the Castle Peak site in the New Territories of Hongkong. The British delegation in the negotiations was led by Mr Gordon Manzie, Deputy Secretary in the Department of Industry.

GEC will act as main contractor and will supply the turbine generators, with Babcock Power as principal subcontractor and supplier of the boilers. Management services will be provided by British Electricity International, the overseas consultancy of the United Kingdom electricity supply industry. Civil design consultancy services will be provided by L. G. Mouchel and Partners.

A financial package which is described as the largest project financing to be arranged in the City of London is being arranged by J. Henry Schroder Wagg and Company with the support of the Export Credits Guarantee Department.

The total package will amount to about $1,800m (over £800m), made up of export credits of $1,500m and a commercial loan of $300m.

The deal was a good example of a partnership between Government, industry and the City, Mr Baker said. Mr Parkinson added: "The close cooperation between the Department of Trade and the Department of Industry made possible by the new Projects and Export Policy Division we set up last year has worked really well".

About 34,000 man-years of work will be created directly by the power station contract, plus perhaps the same amount again in indirectly associated work. It should support employment over about seven years at GEC factories in Rugby, Trafford Park, in Manchester, Stafford, Liverpool, and Larne in Northern Ireland; at the main Babcock Power factory at Renfrew, Glasgow and in many subcontractors throughout the United Kingdom.

The station will be one of the largest in Asia and will be built next to one already under construction (also by GEC) at Castle Peak.

The contract did not go out to international tender so the parties concerned had to assure themselves that the final price of the negotiated contract would be internationally competitive. The Department of Industry employed consultants for this purpose and the clients employed Electrowatt Engineering Services of Switzerland and Gilbert Associates of the United States.

GEC described the contract as the biggest single export order ever placed for manufacture in the United Kingdom. It is nominally valued at £550m, but could exceed £600m "with variations".

The station, known as Castle Point B, will have four 660 megawatt turbine generators. The first station on the site, Castle Point A, has four 350 megawatt turbine generators and four 60 megawatt gas turbines.

New energy offensive by steelmakers

By Patricia Tisdall

Steel producers are to launch a new offensive to try to get electricity prices more into line with those paid by their continental competitors. They complain that new pricing arrangements which take effect from tomorrow will have only a negligible effect on price discrepancies.

The British Independent Steel Producers Association and the British Steel Corporation are pressing the Electricity Council to restructure its bulk supply tariff arrangements. According to Bispa, the April tariff will still leave the prices paid for electricity by British producers between 20 and 40 per cent higher than some of their rivals.

The new, flexible supply scheme which is intended to help bulk users will, according to Bispa calculations, lop only about 3 per cent off some members' electricity bills. As a result, they will pay an increase of about 13 per cent instead of the 15 per cent under the new prices from April 1.

While welcoming any reduction in the industry's bill, which amounted to about £130m in 1980, Mr Ian Blakey director of Bispa, describes it as a "totally inadequate" response to proposals made jointly with the BSC before the Budget.

Comparisons between equivalent steel plants in Britain and Southern Germany show that under the new prices the British producer will still be paying over a third more for electricity than his German rival.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Best of both worlds

From Mr John Field

Sir, In his article about Sir Keith's struggle with the engineering institutions, Derek Harris states that ". . . the institutions want to keep what they call self regulation and what others more aptly have described as the privileges of an exclusive club".

However regulated, there must always be exclusivity in a profession since only those who have reached an appropriate level of skill and who maintain high standards can be considered as qualified to practise it. In no other way can the institutions be considered as exclusive.

The Institution of Civil Engineers, for example, has some 60,000 members of many races and creeds and coming from very diverse social and economic backgrounds. We are also a long way from the élitism of, say, the French system where a graduate of the École des Mines or the École des Ponts et Chaussées would expect, almost of right, to reach a high place in the management of industry.

Perhaps, in fact, it is the absence of a select number of highly trained engineers who become top managers that has put British industry at such disadvantage during the past two decades.

I do not, however, believe that the solution lies in setting up a body nominated by the government executive to regulate the profession and to accredit its members. Such a body would surely concentrate on the narrow view that engineers are to be trained to meet the immediately foreseeable needs of industry rather than to be educated to serve the community and to provide the much needed larger view in industry.

If the institutions are to remain only as learned societies, and I do not accept it as proven that this should be so, then we might do well to take a look at how things are done in the rest of Europe and take the best of both worlds. Full engineering qualifications would be accredited by universities after, say, a five or six-year period of study and training (this having the much needed additional advantage of bringing universities and industry closer together).

By contrast to some other countries, the training period would include some practical experience in industry, perhaps as an extension of the present sandwich course system. Unlike the present arrangements, however, by cooperation between universities and industry, together with government help where necessary, suitable industrial training should be assured for a student before he begins his studies.

I have practised as a civil engineer on the Continent of Europe as well as in the United Kingdom and I recently had occasion to recruit graduates in this country. Any one vacancy for post-graduate training might attract well over 100 applicants and I am sure that many of those will never be able to complete the training they have started for lack of opportunities. It is this problem, not any club atmosphere in the institutions, which might make the profession look exclusive to some.

If Sir Keith would like an easy escape from his difficulties with the institutions he might with advantage pass the buck to the Secretary of State, Department of Education and Science.

JOHN B. FIELD,
2 Wool Road,
Wimbledon SW20.

Deep-sea mining

From Mr Roderick Ogley

Sir, The case Mr Chorich makes in his letter of March 19 against your editorial on the law of the sea conference, and the conference itself, is probably the best that can be made for the Reagan Administration's current stance there. It deserves a reply.

Crucial to his case is the argument that a sea-bed authority is unnecessary, though the decision to establish such a body was in principle made as early as 1970, without opposition and with British and American support. It is difficult to see how, without it, mining of the sea bed beyond national jurisdiction could proceed without grave uncertainties.

The concept of "the freedom of the seas" cannot credibly include the exclusive right to mine sites of 40,000 square kilometres for 20 years or more; and, because the area belongs to all, title issued by any one state can be challenged by any other. What is needed is a generally-accepted global body, able to issue title, and regulate and inspect activities so authorized, in the general interest. It is only through UNCLOS III's Draft Convention, which was generally acclaimed last year by the United States and almost all participating states, that this kind of body can be established.

For one country to change its mind and repudiate the achievements of a decade is to invite chaos. The developing countries cannot be expected to endorse an excision of what was to them the convention's most important gain.

Mr Chorich cannot be serious in suggesting that the convention would operate against their interests. It helps, rather than "scares off" those few developing countries that might consider going into sea-bed mining on their own account; and more importantly, through the Enterprise, it offers the rest the chance to participate collectively in such mining, which has been one of their strongest demands.

No one would defend every provision of the draft convention; but its great merit is that, taken as a whole, it offers a nucleus of global order, a field in which all states can, and need to, cooperate, a new definition of "mankind" and a new agency for global redistribution of wealth (on however small a scale). It will be a dismal day for the world if, through the Reagan Administration's misjudgment, such an opportunity is irretrievably missed.

RODERICK OGLEY,
4 King Henry's Road,
Lewes,
Sussex.

Importance of business names registry

From Mr Keith Havelock

Sir, The members of thi Institute thoroughly suppor the views of the Director o the Consumer Council on th subject of the Business Name Registry (Letters, March 26) We congratulate Lord Lloyd o Kilgerran and the other mem bers of the House of Lords o all parties who, with the activ support of many organization including this one, have show the Government how deep th feeling on this issue runs.

There remains, however, th equally important matter the Government's intention rob the Registrar of Compani of power to refuse to regist new companies with nam confusingly similar to tho already registered and in us The present Bill proposes th only names identical to tho already recorded should be r fused registration.

We indeed trust that th Government will be moved accept amendments so nece sary on both these issues.

Yours sincerely,
KEITH HAVELOCK,
President,
The Institute of
Trade Mark Agents,
69 Cannon Street,
London EC4N 5AB
March 26.

In praise of job centres

From Mr C. Bryant

Sir, The Job Centres of Lee and Sheffield responded m nificently to my challenge f prompt and efficient servi last week.

Having committed myself interview in Leeds followi advertising in the natio press, a review of applicatio on Wednesday morning reveal an inadequate response fr suitably qualified represen tives.

Telephone calls to bo centres the same morni resulted in them providing with applicants throughout t following day. My short list three comprised two of th candidates and subsequen one of them accepted our off

Had I not had their assistan I would have conducted a cos and unsuccessful recruitme operation.

Other managers are probab as guilty as I have been in n using Job Centre faciliti regularly or even as a la resort. As I have learnt worthwhile lesson maybe oth managers can benefit from m experience.

Yours faithfully,
C. BRYANT,
Marketing Manager,
Nailpak Limited,
23 St Aubyns Road,
London SE19 3AA.
March 24.

BY THE FINANCIAL EDITOR

Ocean Transport in calmer waters

)cean Transport & Trading's profits are ihead by four-fifths to £35.5m., a dramatic ecovery after a three-year shipping slump which decimated British fleets.

Calmer conditions prevailing outside the anker market have helped an improvement ipturn in Nigerian trades and in the Barber Blue Sea consortium on the back of a sharp ncrease in United States exports to the Middle East have been important factors.

The question now is just how much recovery scope is left in Ocean given that present recession in manufacturing has yet o really catch up with dry bulk and liner operators. The omens are not particularly good. OCL, the container consortium owned y British shippers and which accounted for ome £16m of Ocean's associate profits may ee lower profits this year although the fleet vas significantly expanded by last-years nclusion of P & O's Gulf trades.

Meanwhile, competition is increasing dramatically in containers while smaller operators are moving back into the West



Sir Lindsay Alexander, chairman of Ocean Transport and Trading.

African routes lured by the seeming return o normality in Nigeria.

Ocean, however, with a heavy spending phase behind it should start to see important benefits as its balance sheet begins to unwind so long as cash flow can be maintained his year.

Borrowings fell £9m to £198m, last year—nterest charges rose 16 per cent to £19.4m —despite capital spending of £34m. A third of this was due to Ocean paying for its share of Furness Withy's OCL stake after the C. Y. ung takeover. Investment this year could lrop below £20m.

The group also has some protection on the ates front with most of its dry bulk cariers locked into profitable medium-term harters for the next couple of years.

Meanwhile a fractional increase in the ividend was seen by the market as signifying boardroom doubts, and the shares having had a good run over the last year eased back lp to 146p, where the yield is 8.8 per cent.

The dividend payment two-and-a-half imes covered on stated earnings and more han twice covered on a CCA basis. Not too much should be read into this however as Ocean's depreciation adjustment under CCA ased on present new building costs in Inited States dollars has been sharply ffected by the strength of sterling.

Freemans

Patience should be rewarded

here was no way that Freemans, the largest idependent agency mail order house with ist over a tenth of the market was going do well last year. And there is little kelihood of it doing much better this year. et the shares rose 6p to 132p after touchg 136p yesterday (and climbing 8p last eek) because the group did better than pected at the time of a dismal interim illetin last October, and because it has so early laid the basis for a rapid advance profits once business picks up.

Pretax profits plunged from £15.22m to 0.64m but only £9.5m seemed likely last ctober. In the first six months they fell om £7.8m to £5.08m. Christmas was not bad as feared and the group seems to ve fared nearly twice as well as mail order general. Even so margins narrowed. The ages bill was more than 17 per cent up id the group—a major user of the postal d railway systems—is a classic victim of iblic sector price inflation.

It also boldly recruited 8 per cent more ents, bringing the number up to 530,000, expensive process. Moreover, it has ent £1.5m on Order Line, its new telehone ordering network which should be ready by summer. This facility, giving instant reservation of goods and prompter delivery is claimed to be ahead of competitors.

Nor has this expansion meant financial strain. Interest payable jumped from £707,000 to £2.06m but total net borrowings at the year end were only £15m against nearly £68m of capital and reserves.

Freemans, seems, then to be prepared for a surge in business, but this looks more likely in 1982, thanks to the Budget. The spring-summer catalogue was well received but prices are only 7 per cent up with many costs still 17 per cent ahead. The group is orientated to fashion more than competitors and this business too should pick up sharply. However the Royal Wedding came too late to help the latest catalogue. The shares should repay patient

● *There were no surprises in first-day dealings in the Government's first index-linked stock, Treasury 2 per cent 1996. After holding at par for most of the day—the stock is £35 paid—the price drifted off ½ in late dealings. That seems reasonable on a day when conventional "mediums" and "longs" finished with falls of up to £1. Trade in the new stock was light and the impression was that the majority of investors who were keen to get their hands on some of the stock got all they wanted in Friday's tender, probably a little more.*

Meanwhile, the rest of the market was looking drab. The sell-out of the index-linked stock has made a hole in pension fund liquidity for the moment. In addition, there is a further £1,000m short-dated stock going on sale tomorrow. This stock may be only £15 paid initially, but even so it is hard to see the market making much headway for the moment given the overall weight of funding and the present halt in the fall in dollar interest rates.

In short, we probably have a temporary block on any further fall in near-term yields just now and insufficient confidence as yet to justify any further flattening of the yield curve.

Charterhouse

A period of readjustment

With any luck, Charterhouse's identity problem, which has undermined the rating of the shares in recent years, is now a thing of the past. The Keyser Ullmann acpuisition, provided the difficulties with Throgmorton Trust do not scupper the whole deal, will decisively tilt the balance of the group away from an amorphous industrial holding company into a merchant banking concern with useful oil-interests.

After such a strong first half, full-year results were a little disappointing with pretax profits, restated to take account of five months of Keyser, a third higher at £16.1m.

The main casualty has been manufacturing. The recession in the engineering and construction industries reduced the trading profits between the two halves from £3.9m to only £350,000 against £5.7m for the previous year. Spring Grove's floatation and a small downturn in NapColour also cut the contribution from services by £2m to £5m.

But this was more than compensated by banking and oil. Thanks to a £1.9m contribution from Keyser, disclosed banking profits jumped from £1.8m to £4.2m although bullion dealing did not match the first half. And with rising Thistle production oil profits soared from £3.4m to £7.6m, although with no other developments to offset profits the tax charge on oil is some two thirds higher but at least the Keyser tax losses have reduced the tax on banking profits to only £300,000.

The key, however, to Charterhouse now which has held back the successful parts of the group in the past. Extraordinary profits from the floatation of Charterhouse Petroleum and the sale of Glanville Enthoven have boosted retentions by two-thirds to £10.8m, but the Keyser deal is much the most important boosting the capital base by a half to £150m, and gearing has halved to 40 per cent.

It is going to take another year before the banking side can exploit this new lending potential but all the signs are that it is going to take a more aggressive line on its investment strategy.

Down 2p to 83p yesterday, the shares, selling on about nine times' earnings, yielding almost 8 per cent and with an asset-banking taking the market value of quoted invest-chequered industrial holding image rather ments of 90p, staill reflect the group's than the banking and oil potential of the future.

Sounds of dissent from the professors

Yesterday's statement from 364 of Britain's leading economists attacking the Government's economic policies ought to be the start of an exciting debate about the alternatives open to us in running our economy, not a sad postscript to the monetarist era.

The real importance of the statement is not that all those professors and chief economic advisers have put on record their belief that monetarism leads to problems. We knew that already.

The important claim which they make is that there are alternative policies. It is in the search for the best of these that the authors of the statement ought now to be concentrating their attention.

No one can claim that conventional methods of demand management produced a world in which everything was sweetness and light. Throughout the second half of the sixties and all of the seventies, inflation and unemployment both moved on an inexorable upward curve. In the world of fixed exchange rates, expansion of domestic demand led to recurrent balance of payments crises. In a system of floating rates, we experienced precipitous declines in the value of the pound.

Those were the problems which led to people casting about for a new theory of economics which would break out of this cycle of decline. The advocates of an alternative will have to face up to them if they are to be credible.

Inflation poses the most obvious problem. There can be no doubt that the policies of the past year and the recession they have caused have been the major factor driving down wages and prices.

Some critics of the Government would be willing to accept inflation at a higher level for a considerable period of time as the price for higher output and lower unemployment. Others think that an incomes policy could get the inflation rate down without forcing the economy into a severe depression.

What critics of the present policy have to face is that they either have to be honest about accepting continued inflation or they have to come up with a credible incomes policy of the sort which we have never seen before.

Even the obvious (and probably sensible) compromise of having incomes policies which keep breaking down does not avoid this choice. It just means we get both sets of problems.

But in being honest about this problem, the Government's critics will probably have to guard against the Government's claim that there is never any choice between inflation and output.

This is the false premise which the Prime Minister constantly relies on when she seeks to show that the Government's policies are not simply cutting inflation; they are also the only way to cut unemployment.

It is symptomatic of the muddled thinking into which this leads her that the whole of this theory relies on the notion that there is some "natural" rate of unemployment with which governments cannot tamper. Yet in Parliament last week, Mrs Thatcher said that she had never believed in the concept of a natural rate of unemployment.

The truth is that there are choices to be made over any reasonable time span between more output with higher inflation and less output with lower inflation. What the economists can do is to spell out to the rest of us how these trade offs work.

When it was in opposition, the Conservative Party flirted with the idea of a national economic forum in which policy issues could be discussed. If the statement calling for a change of policy is serious there will have to be such a forum. But it will have to be organized by people other than the Government.

David Blake

Frank Vogl on the world monetary system under strain

The IMF walks a tightrope

Washington

Saudi Arabia has just agreed to lend the International Monetary Fund about 4,000m Special Drawing Rights (nearly $5,000m) a year for the next two years. This cash is vitally necessary as the IMF faces up to the awesome task of trying to assist nations with rising foreign debt difficulties in a manner which secures greater international economic stability.

To meet requests for funds from its members the IMF considers it necessary to augment its lendable resources this year by between 6,000m and 7,000m SDRs. Next year it may have to raise a greater volume of cash. The Saudi Arabian commitment considerably eases the fund's short-term cash needs.

From a technical viewpoint the IMF should have no difficulty in securing the extra resources which it needs. It could go to the markets tomorrow and borrow large sums with ease. It could use its large gold stocks to ensure that it obtains large cash infusions. But the precise manner in which the fund obtains the necessary resources will have an effect on the stability of the monetary system.

The fund faces its task at a time of international currency instability and after more than a decade of major changes in global monetary arrangements. The dollar no longer reigns supreme in central bank reserves; instead, a multi-currency reserves system has evolved. There has been a large growth of reserves and central bankers have become important currency market traders.

These developments have helped to weaken the structure of international finance. Nations have been enabled to build large debt burdens and now these nations are facing bankers who are less and less willing to provide the finance to service existing debts, let alone provide still more money.

There are sound reasons to fear that still more reserves will be created as the global money supply continues upon an inflation generating expansionary path and that central bankers will become still more ardent currency hedgers and speculators. As they diversify their reserves still more, so the volatility and instability of exchange rates will increase.

For the IMF simply to go to the markets and borrow large sums and then lend them out on modest terms would further encourage all the trends which have been destabilizing the monetary system.

The more cash the fund borrows in the markets, the more it is reduced to the role of being simply a broker between the banks and debtor nations and the more it is likely to add to instability. The fund is acutely aware of this. Indeed this is the key reason why it worked so hard to secure a commitment from Saudi Arabia and why it was even willing to double that country's voting power in the fund to around 3½ per cent to get the loan.

It seems unlikely that the IMF will be able to borrow all it needs directly from Saudi Arabia and a handful of other wealthy nations. So it is probable that it will go directly to the markets this year. Raising a few thousand million dollars by floating securities to the public wouldn ot do muc harm. But great damage could be done if the fund became a regular borrower, seeking ever larger sums.

The fund must demand tough loan conditions if it is to minimize its demands for additonal cash n-coming years. But political realities and today's enormous economic problems, mean that the fund will have to extend loans to most nations on a medium-term basis and that it can expect only gradual progress by borrowers towards strengthening their external payments positions.

The ideal course, if the IMF is to avoid frequent and increased borrowing in the markets, is to secure a big rise in IMF quotas. The last quota review, however, has only just been completed. Arranging another one will take many years.

Budget restraints are dampening the willingness of many countries to inject more cash into the fund. Some countries are only willing to agree to quota increases if their shareholdings in the fund are raised.

The next best course is to establish a mechanism within the fund under which central banks, with reserves to invest, can place their cash directly at the disposal of the fund. This would reduce central banking operations in the markets, it could reduce central banking currency diversification moves and relieve the markets of some of the recycling pressures. This approach could also directly strengthen the fund's ability to manage the monetary system.

The obvious mechanism is a fund substitution account, where central banks could exchange surplus reserves for IMF issued obligations. To undermine the development of the destabilizing multi-currency reserve system the IMF could promote the SDR as the key reserve by issuing SDR obligations through the account.

But the scheme would work only if the obligations issued were really attractive. This consideration is prompting the IMF to increase the yield to holders of special drawing rights. Perhaps a degree of gold backing for the obligations might also make them more attractive.

The scheme would only work if the big surplus nations, particularly the Saudi Arabians, could be convinced of its merits and if the leading industrial nations provided strong political backing. So far the IMF's staff has failed to drum-up the necessary political support. Scores of technical details would have to be decided upon before the establishment of a substitution account, which is able to manage recycling, help control reserves and strengthen the SDR, but none of them represents insurmountable obstacles.

The substitution accounts has many backers, ranging from top fund staff members to Dr Johannes Witteveen, the former IMF managing director and Mr Anthony Solomon, the president of the Federal Reserve Bank of New York. No realistic alternatives have been advocated and unless progress is made soon there is a danger that IMF market borrowing, which initially will be a novelty, could become a habit.

The terms of the Saudi Arabian loan can be seen as a small stepping stone towards a formal substitution account. The Saudi Arabians are being paid an attractive market-related rate of interest on their cash and they are being offered the possibility of converting their loan into bearer notes and transferring these to any other public or private group.

But a substitution account must be more than just a recycling facility. It should be a means of soaking up excess liquidity, a force for international reserve stability and a prime tool with which the fund can play a stronger direct role in the processes of adjustment. There is a danger that politicians, wearing their short-term spectacles, will be so delighted at the way the fund has just won cash from the Saudi Arabians and at the way that it may borrow a few thousand million dollars in the markets later this year, that they will fail to look beyond this to the longer-term issues of the monetary system's stability.

The new Saudi Arabian commitment should be used as the starting point for a new drive to create a large-scale substitution account. If the opportunity is missed, then over time the fund will become more and more involved in market borrowing, being forced to trade and hedge like any other market participant and play all the games that central banks play, thereby weakening rather than strengthening the international monetary system.

How the bureaucrats helped to win the battle of Hongkong

It was just a year ago that Mr John Lippitt, Deputy Secretary at the Department of Industry, regarded by many of his colleagues as a future permanent secretary, abandoned his Civil Service career.

For the previous four years he had been in charge of industrial and commercial policy but shortly before Christmas 1979 he received an approach from Sir Arnold (now Lord) Weinstock, managing director of GEC, asking him to join his group.

With the blessing of Mrs Thatcher and after scrutiny by the Arvisory Committee of Business Appointments but (the body required to vet transfers of senior civil servants to the private business sector) but Mr Lippitt switched to his new job as an associate director of GEC. He was charged with the task of coordinating the group's exports and advising on opportunities for overseas investment in electrical and mechanical engineering.

GEC directors had been impressed by the qualities and abilities he had displayed as a civil servant in the detailed negotiations which led to GEC win the contract placed by Hongkong's China Light and ower Company (CLP) for the Castle e ak "A" power station.

Westerday saw the announcement of a record breaking £55m export contract for the second "B" phase of the Castle Peak project with GEC once again acting as main contractor and supported by Babcock ower.

It was a particularly apposite announcement to mark not only Mr Lippitt's first anniversary with the company but also what may well be a watershed in the development of closer government involvement in a higher competitive business.

The fact that Britain managed to gain this latest contract owes much to the lessons learned in negotiations for the "A" station. This time round negotations for the United Kingdom contenders were led not by Mr Lippitt but by Mr Gordon Menzie, his successor of the Department of Industry.



Mr John Lippitt, an associate director with GEC and former top civil servant: involved, as a government representative, in GEC's earlier successful negotiated contract with China Light and Power.

Over the past three months, supported by technical experts from the companies involved, Mr Menzie has conducted a hectic round of negotiations aimed specifically at securing for Britain one of the decade's glittering export prizes and by so doing opening up the possibility for further substantial business.

The short-term benefits are enormous. The Castle Peak "B" contract will provide much needed work for many sectors of the British engineering industry laid low by the recession.

At a time when the Government's rigorous and controversial economic policies have reduced some of the healthiest blue chip companies to a state of exhaustion, ministers can argue (with some justification) that the Government's role in winning Castle Peak "B" has been positive. Indeed without the concerted effort which the Government and its officials have made, the contract might not have been won.

Britain gained an important foothold when CLP and its partner Eastern Energy, the Exxon Corporation-owned subsidiary, placed the first contract. But the colony's other electricity supplier Hongkong Electric has opted for Japanese expertise for its power station projects. Significantly in the negotiations on the "A" contract, China Light and its partner agreed to a negotiated contract rather than offer the project to international tender.

Those involved regarded a repeat of the earlier procedures as vital. Similarly, there is agreement that the projects and export policy division, established last year within the Department of Trade which reports directly to Mr Manzie and his trade department counterpart, has played an important role.

Work on the first phase of Castle Peak has gone ahead smoothly and with no serious hold-ups in the delivery of equipment. Clearly that performance would work to Britain's advantage but would CLP and Exxon be prepared to repeat the negotiated tender exercise?

Both have to consider among many other factors their responsibility to shareholders and consumers to ensure that a contract negotiated with the United Kingdom Government was internationally price competitive. Exxon was seen as the partner which needed to be persuaded most and in view of Hongkong Electric's preference for Japanese technology, the pressure on Britain heightened to ensure a fully competitive package was assembled.

The client has now been satisfied and the deal struck.

Peter Hill

Business Diary: CBI waste-watchers' club • A plea in Playboy

Terence Beckett, he of "bare-knuckle fight" fame, returned to the fray last night but with a new and subtler attack on Mrs Thatcher.

The CBI director-general told members of an area council in Leeds last night that he has asked civil engineer Malcolm McAlpine to head a task force pinpointing government waste.

Ever since he took office himself last year, Sir Terence has been arguing that the burden of spending cuts has fallen on the private rather than the public sector.

Sir Terence shocked many of CBI supporters with his "bare knuckle" speech to the CBI conference in November, but since then the last Budget has persuaded many faint hearts that after all he was right.

A CBI council meeting was held two weeks ago following the Budget, and although many members — McAlpine among them — were aghast that so little was done to help private industry—there were still some who shied away from another attack on a Tory government. Then this one.

The "task force" emerged as a compromise measure, a means by which the CBI hopes to embarrass the Government by giving chapter and verse on how perhaps up to £3,000m could be saved over the next four years in local government and in Whitehall.

Malcolm McAlpine is a director of his family's firm, Sir Robert McAlpine and Sons construction being an area specially singled out by Sir Terence last night as suffering from government policy. He is to report by the summer—which means that employers as well as unions can have their "winter of discontent".

McAlpine evidently means to stay clear of the trouble Sir Terence caused himself with last November's speech, the only solid piece of information he was prepared to part with last night being that he is aged 63.

Though the names of his fellow waste-watchers have yet to be announced, McAlpine will not have to look far for help. Sir John Greenborough, immediate past-president of the CBI, is now chairman of the McAlpine family holding company, Newarthill.

I had always thought that electricity was apolitical, but now I hear that at Kirkenes in arctic Norway, hard by the Russian border, when they rush short of generating capacity, they import "Soviet power" and the clocks slow down by 15 minutes. It is something to do with different cycles, they say.

Hollowood

The death this weekend of Bernard Hollowood deprives Business Diary of its best and oldest friend.

The cartoon below is the last I received from Bernard before his death on Saturday, and as its theme has something much in Bernard's mind this month, the plight of the universities.

Bernard had posed certain problems for his local academy, the University of Surrey, Guildford. John Freyne, head of the Department of General Studies there, had asked Bernard to submit work for a Hollowood exhibition, but Freyne and his colleague, Howard Romp, head of visual arts at Guildford's Institute of Adult Education, found that though they needed 150 cartoons, to get them they would have to mull through several thousand Hollowoods from over the past 40 years.

Freyne told me yesterday that he had heard from Bernard's family that it was the wish of his widow, Marjorie, that the exhibition should go on.

Bernard Hollowood: Exhibition of Cartoons will run from May 13 to May 29 at the Art Exhibition Gallery, Leggett Buildings, at the university.



"Timmy does not want to go to your old university, Dad. He thinks it will be defunct by the time he is 18."

● The last place one would expect to see an advertisement calling for a day off the booze is *Playboy* and yet the latest edition between advertisements for Tia Maria and Southern Comfort, is a full pager labelled "Nobody ever woke up regretting having had one too few".

Behind the headline is the Distilled Spirits Council of the United States (Discus) which far from being in favour of prohibition is, in fact, the spirit industry's lobby. Its approach is that of moderation, believing that it can keep spirits respectable by suggesting that one does not overdo it.

Discus can afford to be moderate for, after all, its members, the spirit makers, spend over $500m a year on harder advertising.

Now it just happens that a few members of Congress, such as the cunning and powerful Senator Strom Thurmond of South Carolina, are promoting legislation demanding that all bottles of alcohol carry labels warning that drink can be bad for you.

Discus is lobbying against this, and what better way to attract the attenion of Congressmen han taking a full page in the April issue of *Playboy*?

On the cover of this particular edition is the bold announcement "The liberation of a Congressional wife—Rita Jenrette's own story in words and pictures". Inside are pictures of the nude Mrs Jenrette, wife of the former Congressman also from South Carolina, John Jenrette (who had a drink problem and resigned after being found guilty of bribery charges), and her tales of love and booze on Capitol Hill.

It's a story that is gripping the members of Congress, many of whom may just have noted the Discus advertisement on their way through the magazine, and may now think of Discus as a pretty sober group when its spokesmen come a-lobbying.

● "Act now before legislation is brought in to tax and monitor earnings from funds held offshore" is the come-hither from the organizers of the two-day First International Tax Havens Fair" to be held in London in May.

HM Inland Revenue were very down-beat about the whole affair when I called them yesterday to see what they made of it all.

All the old faithfuls are to be represented at the fair, among them the Caymans and Hongkong as well as the newer boys, Eire and Cyprus.

The Chancellor promised in his Budget speech to legislate for the taxation and monitoring of earnings from funds elsewhere by Britons.

Ross Davies

Commonwealth of Australia

Twenty Year 5½% Bonds due May 1, 1985

To the Holders of the above-described Bonds:

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, pursuant to the provisions of the Bonds of the above-described issue, Morgan Guaranty Trust Company of New York, as Sinking Fund Agent, has drawn by lot for redemption on May 1, 1981, at 100% of the principal amount thereof through operation of the Sinking Fund, $819,000 principal amount of said Bonds as follows:

OUTSTANDING COUPON BONDS OF $1,000 BEARING THE DISTINCTIVE NUMBERS ENDING IN ANY OF THE FOLLOWING TWO DIGITS:

15 26 34 41 45 49 54 56 73 85 87 98

COUPON BONDS BEARING THE FOLLOWING NUMBERS:

4383 6983 10883 13583 13683 14583 16783

ALSO THE FOLLOWING REGISTERED BONDS

Bond Number	Principal Amount	Amount Selected for Redemption	Bond Number	Principal Amount	Amount Selected for Redemption
14	$19,000	$3,000	65	$13,000	$1,000

The Bonds bearing the numbers above specified will be redeemed and paid on and after May 1, 1981, at the principal amount thereof, upon presentation and surrender of such Bonds at the option of the holder either (a) at the Corporate Trust Office of Morgan Guaranty Trust Company of New York, 30 West Broadway, New York, N.Y., or (b) subject to applicable laws and regulations, at the main offices of Morgan Guaranty Trust Company of New York in Antwerp, Brussels, Frankfurt (Main), London or Paris, or the Reserve Bank of Australia in London, or Amsterdam-Rotterdam Bank N.V. in The Netherlands or Banque Générale du Luxembourg S.A. in Luxembourg. Payments at the offices referred to in (b) above will be made by check drawn on a bank in New York City, or by a transfer to a United States dollar account maintained with a bank in New York City.

Coupons due November 1, 1981, and subsequent maturing coupons should be attached to coupon bonds being redeemed: coupons maturing on May 1, 1981, should be detached and presented for payment in the usual manner.

From and after such redemption date no interest shall accrue upon or in respect of any such Bonds called for redemption as aforesaid.

COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

March 31, 1981

NOTICE

The following Bonds previously called for redemption have not as yet been presented for payment:

3604 3324 13252 17813 19539 20613 21312 22304 23252 23824

FINANCIAL NEWS

Cape Gate buys two subsidiaries of JFB

By Margareta Pagano

Two steel wire subsidiaries of Johnson and Firth Brown yesterday were sold to Cape Gate, South Africa's largest independent steel wire company, for £15m.

The sale of the lossmaking Johnson & Nephew (Manchester) and Johnson & Nephew (Ambergate) wire mills means that the Sheffield special steels group will no longer be involved in steel wire production. The deal with the Cape Gate Group—subject to non-referral to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission and South African exchange control permission—is based on net asset value of the two plants of about £9m. But the total deal is worth £15m, made up of £4m cash now and 8m to be paid at annual instalments over the next four years.

The properties are being leased back to the two companies by JFB and put and call options have been arranged so that JFB will sell them for £3m in 1987. The £4m cash is made up of £2m for share capital and reserves, £1m for overdrafts and £1m for the loan.

Mr Philip Ling, JFB general manager, said yesterday that to continue funding the two plants would have been a drain on resources. In the six months to March this year J & N (Manchester) is estimated to lose £700,000 and J & N (Abergate) will just break even. The £4m cash, Mr Ling said, will go to reduce the group's £60m debt burden, and so too will the annual payments.

This is Cape Gate's first entry into the United Kingdom market and it aims to bring the mills, both hit by a flood of imports after the steel strike, back to profits. The 900 employess will remain and Cape Gate, run by Mr Mendel Kaplan, will be bringing in some new management in its attempts to diversify products and penetrate international markets.

Stock markets

Profit taking follows CBI forecast for economy

A gloomy economic forecast from the CBI and higher interest rates in the United States led to a subdued start to the new account yesterday.

Dealers reported only moderate demand, after a hesitant start, with investors choosing to remain on the sidelines. Nevertheless, selling pressure was minimal and jobbers and brokers were kept busy by the welter of bed and breakfast deals required as the financial year-end approaches.

Friday night's sharp setback on Wall Street in the wake of the sudden rise in United States prime rates by ½ per cent to 17½ per cent gave the market its first sign that it was time to take profits after the strong run of the last account. This view was reinforced by the gloomy economic report from the CBI which forecast no improvement in the recession until 1982.

Reports suggest that Imperial Metal Industries is about to launch an all-out bid for British Syphon. This will be IMI's second approach to the company. Shares of British Syphon rose 1p to 49p yesterday.

In spite of the quiet conditions, rubber plantations came in for further good gains in a thin market, but gold shares encountered a shakeout as the bullion price dipped $17 to $522.50 an ounce, despite the worsening situation in Poland.

After being down 4.4 at midday the *FT* Index closed 2.5 lower at 518.8.

Government securities appeared worried by the prospect of dearer money in the United States and with the market looking overbought, the new index-linked issue was given a tepid reception. Having held at its opening level of £35 partly paid for most of the day, it closed £⅛ lowr at £34⅞.

Elsewhere, sellers pushed prices lower by as much as £¾ in long, with shorts losing £¼ in rather quiet trade.

Leading industrials recovered from earlier sharp falls but showed a mixed appearance at the close. ICI managed a 2p rise at 238p, Fisons 3p to 156p and Dunlop 1p to 69p—the last named still on talk of a bid from the Far East. But GKN fell 7p at 140p, Tubts 2p to 204p, Beecham 1p to 174p and Unilever 2p to 503p. Profit taking lopped 4p from both Bowater at 236p and Blue Circle at 416p after last week's considerable gains.

Shares of R. P. Martin were suspended just below their high at 184p, pending a further announcement. Only rectntly the group broke off talks with the German group Bierbaum, which holds 29.9 per cent of the equity.

Also on the bid front, Savoy Hotels "A" rebounded 16p to 200p amid speculation that a counterbid to the offer from Trusthouse Forte, unchanged at 218p, was about to be launched.

Weekend speculation that a major United States group might be interested in much-troubled ICL prompted a 7p rise in the shares at 43p, after 45p. Favourable press mention also added 3p to Bath & Portland at 49p, 6p to Braby Leslie at 44p, 2½p to Selincourt at 13p, 5p to JB Holdings at 57p, 6p to Westland Aircraft at 144p and 8p to Flight Refuelling at 345p. But adverse mention wiped 4p from Sangers at 72p.

Shares of Godfrey Davis form and closed at 79p, having been 74p.

Speculative buying lifted Minster Assets 3½p to 81½p, Milbury 9p to 76p, Western Selection Dev 4p to 35p and Brickhouse Dudley 5p to 46p. Buying in a thin market also lifter Steel Bros' 17p to 155p and Amalagamated Metal 27p to 310p.

Improved interim figures boosted Ferry Pickering 3p to 74p, Newman-Tonks 5p to 54p and United Wire 5p to 31p, while better than expected full-year statements added 17p to APV at 240p, 4p to Federated Land at 116p, 6p to Freemans (London SW 9) at 132p and 12p to Low & Bonar at 200p.

week Babcock Int rose 3p to 11p and Cape Industries 2p to 216p.

In shipping, Ocean Transport & Trading closed unchanged at 146p, reflecting disappointment at the size of the dividend, but P & O hardened 6½p to 148p with British Commonwealth 2p heavier at 325p.

Speculative attention lifte Associated Fisheries 6p to 62 in foods, with Wm Morrison reporting later this week— 7 better at 233p. But B. Matthew retreated 10p to 393p in th wake of recent figures.

Electricals saw GEC slip 3 to 665p, despite sharing in th lucrative £550m contrac awarded to several British com panies in Hongkong, whil Thorn EMI dipped 6p to 326 and Plessey 2p to 316p. Automated Security eased 2p to 345 after figures and Pifco in proved 6p to 166p on furth reflection on Friday's tradir news. Investment buying lifte Lec Refrigeration 4p to 122 Sound Diffusion 6p to 128p a Solex (UK) 2p to 54p.

Further strong buying in thin market provided a live session for plantatiosn wi Jitra Rubber up 12p to 74 Bertam Rubber 13p to 93 Singapore Para 15p to 107p a Sungei Bahru 20p to 208p.

Insurance shares remain nervous in the wake of rece disappointing figures. Phoen fell 6p to 270p, Commerc Union, ex div, 11p to 16 General Accident 4p to 33 and GRE 6p to 336p.

Bryant Holdings the hou builder and property group on course for another ou standing year after the surge pre-tax profits from £4.76m £6.56m in 1979-80. The interi statement now due should sh the group on the way to prof of between £7m and £7.5m. T shares are 83p, just 1p short the year's high.

Equity turnover for Mar 27 was £204.749m (barga 27,759). Active stocks, accordi to the Exchange Telegra were ICI, Lasmo, KCA I Turner & Newall, GKN, She GEC, Lucas, Rank Organizatic Royal Bank of Scotland and P

Traditional options: Deal reported quiet conditions y terday. Calls were made in IC Premier Oil at a rate of 9 Hawker Siddeley at 23p a Johnson's, Firth Broaw. P were arrangeo in MFI, W Group at 3p and Racal at 1

Traded options: A total 1,4 contracts were recorded.

Latest results

Company Int or Fin	Sales £m	Profits £m	Earnings per share	Div pence	Pay date	Year's total
APV Hldgs (F)	282.1(261.5)	18.5(19.02)	40.49(42.3)	6.2(5.6)	—	9.0(8.4)
Amal Estates (I)	*0.2(0.18)*	*0.17* (0.167**	*8.0(13.1)*	*1.54(—)*	*15/5*	*2.6(2.66*
Arncliffe (F)	5.45(4.77)	0.48(0.65)	—(—)	—(—)	—	—(—)
Automated Secs (F)	13.6(11.1)	1.8(1.5)	19.43(16.51)	1.4(1.23)	31/5	2.4(2.0)
Bluebird (I)	5.2(5.6)	0.1(0.24)	2.48(3.0)	1.45(1.45)	24/4	—(4.35)
Charterhouse (F)	—(—)	16.1(12.1)	9.64(9.25)	2.76(2.5)	29/5	4.51(4.1)
Emess Lighting (I)	1.35(0.94)	0.16(0.17)	—(—)	2.75(2.50)	7/5	—(—)
Ferry Pickering (I)	4.03(4.07)	0.65(0.75)	—(—)	1.0(1.0)	14/5	—(—)
Freemans (F)	229.4(208.5)	10.6(15.2)	11.2(17.8)	2.0(2.0)	6/6	3.7(3.5)
Low & Bonar (F)	151.6(142.8)	7.6(9.0)	41.27(49.34)	9.5(9.5)	—	14.5(14.5)
Newman Tonks (I)	16.2(19.5)	0.52(1.12)	1.75(2.73)	1.65(1.65)	22/5	—(3.1)
Ocean Transport (F)	595(534)	35.5(19.7)	23.5(13.9)	4.7(4.6)	1/5	9.0(8.9)
H & J Quick (F)	81.14(77.23)	0.13(1.08)	1.5(19.5)	0.61(1.23)	29/5	1.45(2.29)

Dividends in this table are shown net of tax on pence per share. Elsewhere in Business News dividen *are shown on a gross basis. To establish gross multiply the net dividend by 1.428. Profits are sho* pretax and earnings are net. *Loss.

Briefly

Hazlewood Foods: Board has exchanged contracts to acquire the Manor Vinegar Brewery for £1m of which £635,000 is payable in cash and balance in shares.

Winterbottom Energy Trust: Net asset value per share at close of business on March 27 was 383p after deduction of prior charges at par and 396p after deduction of prior charges at market value.

Bond Street Fabrics: In a letter to shareholders, Chairman, states that board is unanimously convinced that the terms offered by Auchinleck are in the best interests of the co, its chareholders, loan stockholders and employees and recommends immediate acceptance of the offer.

Equity and Law Life Assurance Society: British Railways board has acquired an interest in 1.02m shares (5.1 per cent).

Cawdaw Industrial Holdings has acquired an 80 per cent interest in LBS (Parcels), a small transport business which is being acquired to participate the rationalization of the group's transport. Consideration satisfied by the issue of £44,000 in 25p stock units together with £20,000 in cash.

Disposal of Hamblin & Wingate (Holdings) to Dolland & Aitchinson Group was approved. Proceeds £4.3m have been received.

Alcan: Proposed acquisition of the shares not already owned in Alcan Aluminium (UK) was approved at meeting of Alcan Aluminium (UK). Expected that the scheme will become effective on or about April 16.

Inveresk Group: Scheme of agreement involving acquisition by Georgia-Pacific of ordinary stock and the preference stocks of Inveresk was approved by statutory majorities of the holders of such stocks.

G. M. Firth (Metals): Directors have decided not to proceed with the discussions referred to in the announcement made on February 9. However, they are actively considering alternative proposals to expand the activities of the group.

Stroud Riley Drummond: Offer by Mr Stefan Simmonds, chief executive, to purchase all ordinary shares not already owned has lapsed. Acceptances received in respect of 4,755 shares. Prior to offer announcement, Mr Simmonds controlled 1,376m shares (38.9 per cent). The offer was to comply with City code and directors recommended shareholders not to accept.

Aquis Securities: Mr Harold Quitman, chairman, states that the loss sustained by Lex Building, in Brussels, has been substantially reduced during 1980, and with exception of one suite, property is fully let.

NCC Energy: Simplicity Pattern of New York has abandoned two acquisition offers, but embraced a third, unexpected proposal. Simplicity is to work towards "a business combination" with NCC Energy Ltd. Each firm will send two representatives to sit on the other's board. Simplicity said a major shareholder, Devon Group, has agreed to sell its entire 5.5 per cent interest in Simplicity to NCC for $13 a share, or $9.9m

Hazlewood Foods buys Manor Vinegar Brewery

By Rosemary Unsworth

Hazlewood Foods, the vegetable processor and sauce manufacturer, is paying £1m for Manor Vinegar Brewery, which is 40 per cent owned by H. J. Heinz Company.

The consideration will consist of £635,000 in cash and the remainder in shares, and the deal is subject to shareholders' approval.

Manor made pretax profits last year of £203,000 and has shareholders' funds of £581,000. The balance of its shares held principally by members two families.

Heinz and Hazlewood hav both purchased a substanti proportion of their vinegar r quirements from the compar for several years. Manor's pr sent management will contin to run the business, which based in Walsall, Staffordshir

Last year Hazlewood ma pretax profits of £713,000 turnover of £8.3m. Its net asse stand at 53.5p a share.

Waterlow Publishers

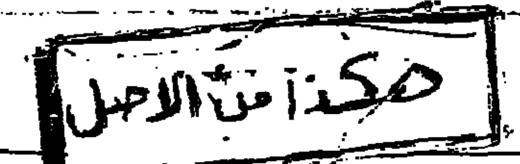
Mr Robert Maxwell, chief executive of BPC, yesterday announced the formation of Waterlow Publishers, which will take over the publishing activities of Waterloo (London) Limited.

Waterloo Publishers continue printing the *Radio Times, The Listener*, and other publications such as *The Solicitor's Diary and Directory* and *The Bankers Magazine*.

Mr Joe Hooke, Waterloo managing director, has bee appointed a director of BPC He joined Waterloo as work manager in 1964 and in 19 was appointed manging dire tor.

Mr Victor Willimson, formerly publishing director, ha been made managing directo and Mr Maxwell is chairma The new company will contin operating from present pr mises.

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Anglo American Corporation

Reviews by the Chairmen of the Gold Mining Companies administered by the Group in the Transvaal for the year ended 31 December 1980.

The following are general comments on the gold and uranium markets, mining operations and related matters from the reviews by Mr. H. F. Oppenheimer, chairman of Elandsrand; Mr. D. A. Etheredge, chairman of Vaal Reefs; Mr. G. Langton, chairman of Western Deep Levels, Southvaal Holdings and Afrikander Lease; and Mr. N. F. Oppenheimer, chairman of S.A. Land.

GOLD

Last year I wrote that the price of gold was not expected to drop to the average level of 1979. In the event, the average price during 1980 reached $614 an ounce which was just double the average of $307 achieved during the previous year. Not only was the average price much higher but the pattern underlying the average was also significantly different. During 1979 the price rose relatively steadily from a low of $225 at the beginning of the year to $524 at the close. However, the price last year was subject to violent fluctuations and fell from its record high of $850 in January to a low for the year of $474, just two months later, before recovering some of its previous strength.

It seems clear that the price volatility during the past year stemmed almost entirely from the activities of short-term investors and speculators who used the gearing opportunities afforded by the futures markets, particularly in New York, to trade enormous volumes of gold. The influence of these futures markets has grown spectacularly along with their trading volumes. During 1975, the first full year of trading, approximately 900,000 gold contracts were traded in the US markets. Last year a total of 11 million contracts were traded, representing approximately 34,400 tons of gold or 138 tons of gold daily on average. Looking at such volumes in the context of a total supply of physical gold in 1980 of only about 1,074 tons, excluding scrap, the dominance of the futures markets rather than the physical bullion markets in short-term price determination in hardly surprising.

Although the current market is described as weak it is showing remarkable resilience in the face of high real interest rates, particularly in the US, and there is evidence of increasing offtake by the industrial sector. This underlying long-term strength reflects the compensatory nature of the various market sectors and the likely trend of market fundamentals over the next few years. It bodes well for the future, irrespective of the short-term fluctuations which will undoubtedly persist. In this connection it is worth noting that last year's volatility was relatively of the same order as that seen in 1973-74.

It is estimated that the total supply of gold to the market during 1980 amounted to only about 1,074 tons, excluding scrap, compared with 1,765 tons in 1979. Net supplies by the major producing nations, South Africa and Russia, declined to approximately 645 tons and 80 tons respectively after 703 tons and 230 tons in 1979. The high gold price enabled South African producers to exploit lower grade ores and the Reserve Bank to withhold gold from the market. It also assisted the communist bloc to achieve its foreign exchange requirements with significantly lower sales volumes. Despite the continuing expansion of the South African gold mining industry, supplies from this source are unlikely to increase significantly due to the lower grades being mined; however, Soviet sales could possibly return to previous levels should economic circumstances so dictate.

Elsewhere in the world, production is estimated to have increased from 260 tons in 1979 to approximately 280 tons. Intensified exploration activity and efforts to recover by-product gold should result in increased production but this increase should be more than offset if central banks in producing countries decide to withhold greater volumes of gold from the market.

The IMF supplied only 69 tons in 1980 in the final auction sales of its four-year programme, compared with 170 tons in 1979. Despite the substantial quantity of gold still held by the IMF it seems unlikely that further supplies will be made available from this source, at least for the foreseeable future.

Partly as a result of consumer resistance to higher and more volatile prices and partly because of the trend towards lighter and lower caratage jewellery pieces, new gold offtake by jewellery manufacturers is estimated to have fallen to about 350 tons or less than half that of 1979 levels.

Renewed demand nevertheless may be expected as the market eventually adjusts to higher price levels and as the availability of scrap gold declines.

After a slump early in the year sales of official coins resumed later, although at lower tonnage levels than before. There is still good demand for the one ounce coins even though they have tended to become too expensive for the smaller investor. In September, therefore, Intergold launched a series of fractional Krugerrands containing precisely one-half, one-quarter and one-tenth of an ounce of fine gold. Judging from the market's initial reaction these coins are proving attractive to a broader spectrum of investors and, because they are aimed at a different market, they have not affected demand for the one ounce Krugerrand. Sales of all official coins are estimated to have totalled 200 tons in 1980, nearly half of which were Krugerrands.

In monetary terms, investment demand grew substantially with tonnage remaining relatively constant. If purchases and retentions by central banks and other monetary authorities are added to investment demand it can be seen that gold has regained a large measure of its importance as the asset of last resort.

Unless official sales resume on a large scale, and this is unlikely, it would seem that demand will match the supply from all sources with price fluctuations being the determining factor. In the longer term these fundamental considerations will govern the development of the gold market. Notwithstanding short-term speculative influences, I believe that 1981 will prove to be a year during which the market stabilises and, in the longer term, supply-demand fundamentals will ensure that the trend will remain upward.

URANIUM

Uranium prices in the spot market fell dramatically during the year and opportunities for doing new short-term business at reasonable prices were further reduced. In the recessionary economic climate affecting most of the developed world, projections of demand for additional power generation have slipped considerably. Although exploration activity is now diminishing, a number of high-grade orebodies have been discovered in various countries during the past few years and existing producers have extended their production capacity. As a result, an oversupply is developing and this is affecting uranium consumers' perceptions of the security of their future supplies. Arising from these altered perceptions and the influence of high interest rates early in the year, certain electricity utilities in the US began to dispose of surplus inventory and this accelerated the market's decline.

At current price levels, and with production costs escalating rapidly, more and more primary producers of uranium will be forced out of business while producers of by-product uranium and new, low-cost primary producers take their place in the market. Such a trend is already evident and the balance between supply and demand will consequently be re-established eventually, although it is anticipated that uranium inventories will continue to increase in the medium term.

In the longer term there can be no doubt that utilities must start ordering new generating capacity again to maintain a sufficient generating reserve and to match the slow growth in electricity demand. They must look, also, to the replacement of obsolete capacity and, later, oil-fired stations. The trends of supply and demand are, therefore, bound to change direction again. The difference this time will be that projections of nuclear power growth will be rather more realistic than in the past and prices more in line with market fundamentals.

Another factor with which South African uranium producers must contend is the desire of many of the utilities to diversify their supply sources. The fact that Australian producers are receiving permission to proceed with the development of their mines has presented the utilities with this opportunity which has been compounded by the aggressive pricing policy adopted by the Australians.

The uranium spot price has fallen substantially since mid-1979; however, the steady appreciation of the rand relative to the dollar has accentuated this decline in South African money terms. Given a situation in which uranium over-supply is projected for some years, it is difficult to see how spot prices can improve and pressure from our present customers to modify our existing contracts appears a likely corollary. I believe that, at best, it will be possible to maintain present contract prices only in current money which means, of course, a decline in real terms.

LABOUR

In my review last year I made reference to the shortage of skilled workers in South Africa; this shortage, far from diminishing, has been aggravated by increased activity in the industrial and construction sectors of the economy to such an extent that I now regard the situation as becoming critical. It is hoped that recruiting campaigns initiated both locally and abroad towards the end of last year will help to ease the situation.

However, I feel it is important that all those concerned with the industry should recognise that any lessening of the shortage of skilled manpower by the recruitment of trained artisans can only be a temporary measure, and that in the long term the only acceptable solution is the proper training and utilisation of South Africa's total manpower resources. The period of initial training of apprentices will have to be reduced further, without in any way changing the accepted standards, by giving apprentices the basic skills which will be consolidated and enhanced by continuous training programmes throughout the early years of their careers. A decision has been taken to construct a new centre devoted to apprentice training in Carletonville to service mines in that area. This will supplement the expanded facilities at Welkom and at this mine and will enable the ratio of apprentices to artisans to be increased to 1:2.

The black-white wage gap in the mining industry is closing slowly, but there will have to be further substantial increases in the real earnings of the lowest paid workers to raise them to the rates paid in heavy industry and to provide an acceptable standard of living for their families.

Summary of Operations

	Vaal Reefs 1980	Vaal Reefs 1979	Vaal Reefs South Lease Area[1] 1980	Vaal Reefs South Lease Area[1] 1979	Western Deep Levels 1980	Western Deep Levels 1979	Elandsrand 1980	Elandsrand 1979[2]	S.A. Land 1980	S.A. Land 1979
Gold										
Tons milled 000's	8 596	8 183	2 858	2 679	3 329	3 241	985	582	1 336[3]	1 285[3]
Yield-grams/ton	8.13	8.22	10.59	10.29	13.70	14.78	5.33	5.04	1.11	1.24
Production (kg)	69 876	67 282	30 270	27 560	45 621	47 890	5 250	2 931	1 486	1 595
Coft-Rand/ton milled	36.39	31.88	38.21	34.40	44.17	37.15	42.98	35.47	3.93[4]	3.17[4]
Cost-Rand/kg produced	4 399	3 878	3 608	3 344	3 223	2 514	8 063	7 044	3 537[4]	2 557[4]
Price received-Rand/kg	15 784	8 183	15 784	8 147	15 931	8 358	15 491	9 270	15 438	8 099
Working profit R000's	799 047	290 870	368 270	132 942	582 885	280 552	39 801	7 151	6 720[5]	3 072[5]
Royalty Paid	195 637[6]	66 976	195 587	66 976	—	—	—	—	—	—
Capital expenditure R000's	126 106	103 876	54 197	54 982	71 936	72 749	37 055	69 000	2 545	530
Tax R000's	335 120	108 678	—	—	328 303	136 001	—	—	2 114	2 137
Dividends cents share	1 320	510	—	—	800	320	—	—	55	40
Uranium										
Production (tons)	1 758	1 273	773	486	213	199	—	—	—	—
Profit R000's	46 396	61 821[4]	21 631	18 674	3 501	9 484	—	—	—	—

NOTES: 1. Included in Vaal Reefs figures 2. First full year of production 3. From dumps
4. Unit production cost (excluding the delivered cost of dump material) 5. After taking account of the delivered cost of dump material
6. Includes royalty of R50 000 paid to Afrikander lease.

Mr. N. F. Oppenheimer: potential new gold mine at S.A. Land

I commented in my review last year on the possibilities which exist for the establishment of a gold mine in an area around the old No. 5 shaft of the defunct Van Dyk Consolidated Mines Limited to the west and south of Sallies' workings. In preparing the detailed feasibility study, account has had to be taken of contradictory geological and sampling information which has only recently come to light and which suggests that the extent and value of the ore reserves and the potential reserves might not be as great as was thought previously to be the case. However, it is a well-known feature of the East Rand that it is especially difficult to estimate ore reserves because gold deposits are concentrated generally in payshoots of irregular width which become narrower towards the south and tend to be erratic. After exhaustive research it is considered that an opportunity may exist, in the long term, for the development of a new gold mine and I believe that this opportunity should be examined further. It has been decided, as a first step, to conduct a comprehensive underground sampling programme which, if successful, may be followed by a major capital expenditure project. The sampling programme will involve the installation of a hoist in the Van Dyk No. 5 sub-vertical shaft together with the necessary electrical reticulation and pumping facilities to de-water the underground workings.

It is not possible for the company to finance both the cost of the sampling programme as well as current capital projects or those which will be embarked upon shortly, from cash flows generated by its normal operations. In view of this it is intended to make a rights offer to shareholders to raise an amount considered adequate to cover the anticipated costs. Detailed proposals are being prepared and will be circulated to members shortly.

The Annual General Meetings of these companies, all of which are incorporated in the Republic of South Africa, will be held in Johannesburg, South Africa, on April 21, 1981. Copies of their annual reports may be obtained from the London Office at 40 Holborn Viaduct, London EC1P 1AJ or from the office of the United Kingdom Transfer Secretaries, Chartered Consolidated Limited, P.O. Box 102, Charter House, Park Street, Ashford, Kent TN24 8EQ.

COMPANY ANNOUNCEMENT

The South African Land & Exploration Company Limited

Incorporated in the Republic of South Africa

PROPOSED RIGHTS OFFER TO MEMBERS

The attention of members is drawn to the chairman's review for 1980 which is advertised in the Press today, and also to the annual report which was posted to members on March 30 1981. It will be noted from these documents that it is intended to make a rights offer of shares to finance underground sampling from the old Van Dyk No. 5 shaft. The technical advisers estimate that approximately R13,000,000 will be required to cover the costs both of the proposed underground sampling programme and of other capital projects either currently in progress or to be embarked upon shortly.

The directors have accordingly decided to make the offer to members registered in the books of the company at the close of business on Friday, April 24 1981 (see note below), and to holders of share warrants to bearer issued by the company. Applications will be made to The Johannesburg Stock Exchange and The Stock Exchange in London for listings of the shares to be offered, which will, upon issue, rank pari passu in all respects with the existing shares in issue.

Details of the offer, including the number of shares to be offered, the ratio and the issue price, will be published in the Press in due course. A circular containing a copy of a report by the company's technical advisers, together with full details of the offer, will be posted to members from the Johannesburg and United Kingdom offices of the company. The circular will be accompanied by renounceable letters of allocation in respect of members' rights arising from their holdings in the company on April 24 1981.

In order to participate in the offer, holders of share warrants to bearer must lodge their share warrants and talons at the offices of the company's transfer secretaries in the United Kingdom. Certificates for the new shares to be issued in terms of the offer will be issued in registered form only.

Note: The offer will not be registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission, Washington. The offer will not be open for acceptance by persons with registered addresses in the United States of America. The rights which are thus not available for acceptance by such persons will, if possible, be sold on the London or Johannesburg stock exchanges through an independent merchant bank for the account of such persons, and details of the arrangements in this regard will be sent to members with registered addresses in the United States of America. If such rights are sold on The Johannesburg Stock Exchange then in terms of South African exchange control regulations the proceeds will constitute financial rand.

Johannesburg
March 31 1981

London Office:
40 Holborn Viaduct,
London EC1P 1AJ.

Copies of this announcement are being posted to all members at their registered addresses.

A CIRCULAR TO MEMBERS

Elandsrand Gold Mining Company Limited

Incorporated in the Republic of South Africa

ADDITIONAL CAPITAL REQUIREMENTS

Increase of Capital and Proposed Rights Offer

In the directors' report for 1979, reference was made to the arrangements relating to the financing of post-production expenditure and the fact that much would depend on gold production from early stoping operations and on the prevailing gold price. It was hoped that sufficient funds would be realised to meet the continuing capital expenditure programme necessary to bring the mine to full production; any shortfall would be covered by bridging finance arranged with Anglo American Corporation of South Africa Limited.

The company at present has loan facilities of R40 million from Anglo American Corporation of South Africa Limited. Drawings against these facilities bear interest at a rate one per cent above the minimum overdraft rate charged by the commercial banks from time to time, and there is a commitment charge of one per cent per annum on the undrawn balance. As at February 28 1981, the total amount borrowed in terms of these arrangements amounted to R38,614,000.

The mine's priority programme is the urgent development of a sub-vertical shaft system on which capital expenditure is proceeding as fast as possible. When completed, the system will facilitate the exploitation of the higher-grade reef at lower levels in order to realise fully the mine's considerable profit potential. In the circumstances, the directors consider it appropriate to raise the further capital required to bring the mine to its full production of 180,000 tons a month by way of a rights offer. The amount which it is proposed to raise will be about R120 million.

The company at present has an authorised capital of R16,000,000 in 80,000,000 shares of 20 cents each, of which 75,484,238 shares have been issued. It is proposed to convene a general meeting of members to follow the annual general meeting scheduled for April 21 1981, at which members will be asked to consider a special resolution increasing the authorised capital to R21,000,000 in 105,000,000 shares of 20 cents each. Subject to the passing of this resolution, the company will then have 29,515,762 shares in reserve, which will give the directors the necessary flexibility in fixing the terms of the proposed offer.

At the general meeting, members will be asked also to consider an ordinary resolution placing the reserve shares under the control of the directors and authorising the directors to make appropriate arrangements for the subscription by underwriters of any shares offered by way of rights issues and not taken up by the persons entitled thereto, and of any shares resulting from the consolidation of any fractional entitlements.

No portion of the capital of the company is under option or, conditionally or unconditionally, committed to be put under option. No capital has been issued since the date of the last published audited financial statements, nor is it proposed (other than as set out in this circular) that any capital be issued for cash or otherwise, nor have any commissions, discounts, brokerages or other special terms in connection with the issue or sale of any capital of the company been granted.

Subject to the passing and registration of the special resolution increasing the company's authorised capital, it is proposed that the rights offer should be made to members registered in the books of the company at the close of business on Friday, April 24 1981, the "record date" (see note below). Applications will be made to The Johannesburg Stock Exchange and The Stock Exchange in London for listings of the shares to be offered, which will, upon issue, rank pari passu in all respects with the existing shares in issue.

Details of the offer, including the number of shares to be offered, the ratio and the issue price, will be published in the Press in due course. A circular containing a copy of a detailed report by the company's technical advisers on the progress of the mine, together with full details of the offer, will be posted to members from the Johannesburg and United Kingdom offices of the company. The circular will be accompanied by renounceable letters of allocation in respect of members' rights arising from their holdings in the company on the record date.

Note: The offer will not be registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission, Washington. The offer will not be open for acceptance by persons with registered addresses in the United States of America. The rights which are thus not available for acceptance by such persons will, if possible, be sold on The Stock Exchange in London or The Johannesburg Stock Exchange through an independent merchant bank for the account of such persons, and details of the arrangements in this regard will be sent to members with registered addresses in the United States of America. If such rights are sold on The Johannesburg Stock Exchange then in terms of South African exchange control regulations the proceeds will constitute financial rand.

Increase in borrowing powers

The borrowing powers of the directors are at present limited by the company's articles of association to a maximum of R40 million. It is clear that these borrowing powers, which were fixed when the company was incorporated in 1974, are inadequate under present conditions.

At the general meeting members will therefore be asked to consider a special resolution amending Article 38 of the company's articles of association in such a way as to give the company minimum borrowing powers of R100 million.

NOTICE OF GENERAL MEETING

Notice is hereby given that a general meeting of Elandsrand Gold Mining Company Limited will be held at 44 Main Street, Johannesburg, on Tuesday, April 21 1981 at 09h15 or immediately following the termination of the annual general meeting of the company convened for 09h00 on that day, whichever is the later, for the following purposes:

1. To consider and, if deemed fit, to pass the following resolution as a special resolution:

"That the authorised capital of the company be and it is hereby increased from R16,000,000, divided into 80,000,000 shares of 20 cents each, to R21,000,000 divided into 105,000,000 shares of 20 cents each, by the creation of 25,000,000 shares of 20 cents each, which shares shall, upon issue, rank pari passu with the existing shares of the company."

2. To consider and, if deemed fit, to pass the following resolution as an ordinary resolution:

"That, subject to the passing and registration of the special resolution increasing the capital of the company from R16,000,000 to R21,000,000, the directors be and they are hereby authorised:

(i) To allot and issue all or any portion of the 29,515,762 unissued shares of a nominal value of 20 cents each in the capital of the company at such time or times, to such person or persons, company or companies, and upon such terms and conditions as they may determine, the aforesaid authority to remain in force until the next annual general meeting of the company;

(ii) to make arrangements on such terms and conditions as they may deem fit for the subscription by underwriters of:

(a) any shares offered by way of rights issues but not taken up by the persons entitled thereto; and

(b) any shares resulting from the consolidation of any fractional entitlements in respect of any shares issued in pursuance of a rights issue, provided that any rights to such shares which can be sold in nil-paid form on the Johannesburg and/or London stock exchanges during the period which they are quoted on such stock exchanges will be sold by the underwriters, and the net proceeds of any sale of such rights exceeding five rand in the case of any individual shareholder shall be paid to such shareholder. Any net proceeds of less than five rand per shareholder shall be paid to the company."

3. To consider and, if deemed fit, to pass the following resolution as a special resolution:

"That clause 38 of the company's articles of association be deleted and the following inserted in place thereof:

'38(a) Subject to the provisions of sub-article (b) hereof, the Directors may borrow or raise from time to time for such purposes of the Company such sums as they deem fit.

(b) The Directors shall procure (but as regards subsidiaries of the Company only insofar as by the exercise of voting and other rights or powers of control exercisable by the Company they can procure) that the aggregate principal amount at any one time outstanding in respect of moneys so borrowed or raised by the Group (excluding Inter-Group borrowings but including the principal amounts secured by any outstanding guarantees or suretyships given by any company in the Group for the share capital or indebtedness of any other company or companies whatsoever and not already included in the aggregate amount of the moneys so borrowed or raised) shall not without the previous sanction of an ordinary resolution of the Company exceed the aggregate of:

(i) One hundred million rand, or

(ii) the total of:

(a) the nominal amount of the issued and paid up share capital for the time being of the Company (subject to any variations therein since the date of the last accounts referred to in this clause) and

(b) the aggregate of the amounts standing to the credit of all capital and revenue reserve accounts, any share premium accounts and the profit and loss accounts as set out in the consolidated balance sheet of the Company and its subsidiaries certified by the Company's Auditors and as attached to or forming part of the last accounts of the Company which shall have been drawn up to be laid before the Company in General Meeting at the relevant time;

whichever is the greater amount,

provided that no such sanction shall be required to the borrowing of any moneys intended to be applied and actually applied within ninety days in the repayment (with or without premium) of any moneys then already borrowed and outstanding and notwithstanding that the new borrowing may result in the abovementioned limit being exceeded.

For the purposes of the said limit the issue of loan capital shall be determined to constitute borrowing notwithstanding that the same may be issued in whole or in part for a consideration other than cash. For the purposes of this Article, "Group" shall mean "the Company and the subsidiary companies for the time being of the Company."

No lender or other person dealing with the Company shall be concerned to see or enquire whether this limit is observed."

The reasons for proposing the above special resolutions are given in the above mentioned circular, and the effects of the resolutions are apparent from the resolutions.

A member entitled to attend and vote at the meeting may appoint one or more proxies to attend, speak and, on a poll, vote in his stead. A proxy need not be a member of the company.

The head office and United Kingdom transfer register and registers of members of the company will be closed from April 13 to 21 1981, both days inclusive.

By order of the board
Anglo American Corporation of South Africa Limited
Secretaries

per C. R. Bull
Divisional Secretary

Registered Office:	Postal Address:	London Office:
44 Main Street,	P.O. Box 61587	40 Holborn Viaduct,
Johannesburg 2001.	Marshalltown 2107.	London EC1P 1AJ.

March 30 1981

FINANCIAL NEWS

Bank Base Rates

ABN Bank	12%
Barclays	12%
BCCI	12%
Consolidated Crdts	14%
C. Hoare & Co ..	*12%
Lloyds Bank	12%
Midland Bank	12%
Nat Westminster ..	12%
TSB	12%
Williams and Glyn's	12%

* 7 day deposit on sums of £10,000 and under 9%, up to £50,000 9½%, over £50,000 10½%.

Interim profits halved at Newman-Tonks

By Our Financial Staff

Metal engineering group Newman-Tonks saw its pretax profits more than halved to £520,000 in th efirst half. However, the dividend for the first half to January 31 has been maintained at 2.36p gross, helping the shares to rise 3p to 52p yesterday.

Mr Michael Wright, the chairman, said that the final payment would depend on the overall results this year and the outlook for 1981-82. At the moment he sees litle sign of improvement in the United Kingdom, where the group's operations have been hit by the recession, with margins under heavy pressure.

A difficult first half in this country was exacerbated by two overseas contributors—Australia and South Africa—failing to meet their targets. However, those operations are now expected to meet their budgets this half, and Mr Wright expects to see an imporevent in group trading profits, "provided there are no unforeseen circumstances", during the last part of the group's year, ending on July 31.

Sales in the first half fell by nearly 17 per cent to £16.2m and the pre-tax profit of £520.000 included a £100,000 profit realized on the sale of surplus property.

Last year Newman-Tonks's profits fell by 39 per cent to £1.87m pre-tax, but the group paid the increased dividend forecast in a rights issue document after which it had to make a £348,000 transfer from reserves to meet its extraordinary items.

Wereldhave and Cemp form joint company

By Peter Wainwright

Wereldhave the quoted Dutch property group, and Cemp International Property Investments of Canada have established a joint United Kingdom-based company, Canadian Dutch Properties. Both the shares and the running of the new company will be divided equally. Its brief is to find property development opportunities in the United Kingdom and on the Continent.

The first investment is the purchase from MEPC, of Dorset House, Hatfields, London, for about £3m. This building was until recently occupied by IPC. It is south of Blackfriars Bridge opposite the IPC Tower at King's Reach, and close to Lloyds Bank Computer Centre.

Canadian Dutch Properties plans to spend about £7m on *refurbishing the offices. The* work should be finished by the summer of 1982. The board of Canadian Dutch will be six strong.

The parent of Cemp International is Cemp Investments, a private Canadian company based in Montreal. It is owned by trusts belonging to the Bronfman family, which, among other things, owns nearly a third of Seagram. Cemp also has nearly two fifths of Cadillac Fairview Corporation, one of the world's largest property companies with gross assets of more than £860m.

Wereldhave's shares have been listed in Amsterdam since 1946, and in London since 1979. It pays no tax on Dutch profits as long as all investment income is paid out every year in dividend. In the 1970s the group ventured into France, West Germany, Belgium, the United Kingdom and the United States.

Low and Bonar slips, but shares reach new high

By Our Financial Staff

Textiles and packaging group Low and Bonar, of Dundee has had its first profits setback in six years with a downturn of 15 per cent.

Pretax profits fell by £1.4m to £7.6m in the 12 months to last November 30 while turnover advanced from £142.8m to £151.6m. The results were in line with expectations and the shares reached a new high of 200p, a 12p rise, after the announcement.

The downturn came from the United Kingdom packaging and engineering operations in a year when the group was trying to reduce its dependence on textiles, mainly in Africa. But this operation managed to remain steady and thus produced 43 per cent of the group profits compared with 38 per cent last year.

Nairn Travel, however, which contributed for five months, benefited from sterling's strength in common with its rivals and made £500.000 profit, just as the group expected.



Mr Alan Miller, chairman of Low and Bonar.

Canada also performed better, although the unfavourable conversion rate to sterling resulted in a same-again figure, with the operation contributing just under a quarter of group earnings.

Overall exchange losses cost the group £337,000 in pretax profit, against a loss of £626,000 in 1979: The bulk of the currency appreciation was against the Canadian dollar.

Interest charges rose by £250,000 during the year to £2.1m with borrowings up by £1m to £10m. Reorganization and relocation costs and losses on the disposal of properties cost Low & Bonar £555,000 in extraordinary items, against the previous year's £119,000, leaving retained profit of £2.57m compared with £3.76m.

The final dividend has been maintained at 13.57p gross, which gives an unchanged total of 20.71p and provides a yield of 10.35 per cent.

With the training climate marginally worse in the second half the group has not made a profit forecast for the current year but it indicated that contrary to Government belief, there was no sign yet that the bottom of the recession had been reached.

Granada on course, but TV rental trade slows

Granada group's profits [so] far this year are as budg[eted] and exceed those of the s[ame] period last year, Mr [...] Bernstein, chairman, told [the] annual meeting. In the yea[r to] September 27, Granada m[ade] £42.49m in pretax profits.

Mr Bernstein said rece[ntly] that Granada purchased [for] nearly £4m a general insur[ance] company, Eurnbel, based [in] Brussels, whose business [is] similar to that of Grana[da's] existing Belgian insurance [com]pany, L'Etoile.

Mr Berstein said that [the] colour television rental bus[iness] is slow but video recorder [busi]ness is growing fast. Altho[ugh] this will not be reflecte[d in] profits for two or three y[ears] a good base is being e[stab]lished.

He confirmed that Gra[nada] has received acceptances [for] 59 per cent of the shares [bid] for in Whitley Bay Enter[tain]ments and now has contr[ol of] the company.

M. J. H. Nightingale & Co. Limited

27/28 Lovat Lane London EC3R 8EB Telephone 01-621 1212

The Over-the-Counter Market

1980-81 High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div(p)	Yld %	P/E
75	39	Airsprung Group	67	—	6.7	10.0	6.0
50	21	Armitage & Rhodes	50	—	1.4	2.8	20.6
192	92½	Bardon Hill	189	—	9.7	5.1	7.1
98	88	Deborah Services	95	—	5.5	5.8	4.7
126	88	Frank Horsell	106	—	6.4	6.0	3.3
110	39	Frederick Parker	49	—	1.7	3.5	21.3
110	73	George Blair	73	—	3.1	4.2	—
110	59	Jackson Group	107	—	6.9	6.4	4.1
124	103	James Burrough	118	—	7.9	6.7	9.7
334	244	Robert Jenkins	325	—	31.3	9.6	—
55	50	Scruttons "A"	51	—	5.3	10.4	3.7
224	215	Torday Limited	215	—	15.1	7.0	3.7
23	8	Twinlock Ord	10	—	—	—	—
90	69	Twinlock 15% ULS	72	—	15.0	20.8	—
56	35	Unilock Holdings	46	—	3.0	6.5	7.1
103	81	Walter Alexander	100	—	5.7	5.7	5.5
263	161	W. S. Yates	259	—	13.1	5.1	4.9

Blue Bird sees interim dip to £115,000

By Our Financial Staff

West Midlands-based Blue Bird Confectionery Holdings saw pretax profits dip from £241,000 to £115,000 in the six months to December 27. Turnover fell from £5.6m to £5.2m. The interim dividend is maintained at 2.07p gross.

Commenting on the dividend payment the board says that it should not be taken as an indication that it intends to maintain the final.

Overall, they say, the company is weathering the recession reasonably well and the balance sheet remains strong, but the decision to keep the workforce intact has cost some £100,000. This policy may have to be reviewed.

Tax takes £22,000 form the profits against £94,000 last year.

Anglo American rights issues

Elandsrand and South African Land and Exploration, two gold mines in the Anglo American group, are to make rights issues. The terms have not yet been announced, but Elandsrand proposes to increase its authorized capital from R16m (£8m) in 80 million shares to R21m in 105 million shares.

The funds will be used to finance further evaluation by Sallies of the Van Dyke deposit adjacent to the mine. The work is expected to cost about £10m. Elandsrand's cash will be devoted to capital expenditure on developing the mine.

APV to concentrate expansion overseas

By Catherine Gunn

APV Holdings, the process and heat-transfer equipment manufacturer, is to concentrate its expansion overseas, Mr Harry Benson, the chairman, said yesterday. "Any expansion we have will certainly be overseas and not in this country unless we have a drastic change here," he said.

Mr Benson said that the group's United Kingdom profits would fall this year. Demand for its capital goods remains weak here, but the picture overseas is considerably brighter. However, it is too early to tell whether rising overseas profits in 1981 will offset the downturn here, Mr Benson says.

Group profits slipped slightly last year to £21.1m pretax at December 31, but the board decided to take advantage of good dividend cover to raise the final payout by 10 per cent, giving a total for 1980 of 12.9p gross, a 7.14 per cent increase.

The shares rose 8p to 241p after the results, later easing to 240p. The 1980 dividend is 4½ times covered on a historic basis and 1.4 times by current cost profits of £10.5m.

Group sales of £282m were 7.9 per cent better than in 1979. Before netting out inter-company sales of roughly £30m, sales were split almost evenly between the British and the overseas companies.

Overseas operations contributed a £10.6m profit, up £1.6m, in spite of losses on translation to sterling of £1.3m. More than £7m profit came from North America. Other good markets for APV at the moment are Australia, South Africa, South America and south east Asia.

In Britain the recession took its toll of APV in the second half of 1980 and the group is still working a four-day week in many of its British factories. Order intake is well down here.

Costs have been reduced after last year's reorganizations and a 14 per cent reduction in the British workforce to 6,320. Total closure and redundancy costs for the group, including a Middle East factory closure, were £1.73m, included in net extraordinary items of £596,000 reduced by the release of deferred tax.

APV reduced its net borrowings by £600,000 last year to £22m at the year end. Interest costs in 1980 were 15 per cent higher at £2.21m, after expenditure of £7m. That will fall to £6m this year.

Arncliffe holds payo[ut] after fall for year

Arncliffe Holdings has [main]tained its dividend at 3.8p [gross] for 1980. Turnover rose [from] £4.7m to £5.45m but pr[etax] profits fell from £656,00[0 to] £484,000. Earnings a s[hare] were 8p against 13.1p.

The group recovered we[ll in] the second half, Mr M [...] Cussins, chairman, says. [At] the year end, sales have [im]proved considerably and [the] numbers of houses and [land] held available for sale [have] been significantly reduce[d].

Cavenham complete[s] switch to food

Cavenham's plan to dis[pose] of all its manufacturing [acti]vities and to concentrate [on] food retailing is now [com]pleted. The group has converted its holdings [of] ordinary shares in its U[nited] States holding company [into] preference shares, allowin[g the] main group to concentrat[e on] its United Kingdom activ[ities].

Cavenham will now hav[e] income from its cumul[ative] preferred share investmen[t of] $15.18m a year and its tr[ading] activity will now consist o[f] Allied Suppliers Group i[n the] United Kingdom.

Amalgamated Estat[es] expansion

Property group, Amalgam[ated] *Estates* has contracted to [buy] two properties and rep[orted] yesterday that it needs to [raise] about £2m. Arrangements [have] been made for the provisio[n of] the finance and it will [be] necessary to raise the gr[oup's] borrowing limit. In the year to September 30 1980, [the] group's pretax loss incre[ased] from £167,000 to £178,000.

Half-time slip at Ferry Pickering

With turnover slightly l[ower] at £4.03m, compared [with] £4.07m, pretax profits of [the] Leicestershire-based F[erry] Pickering Group contra[cted] from £746,000 to £654,000 in [the] six months to December [...] 1980. But the group is now n[ot]ing an increase in dem[and] which if sustained, will ju[stify] an outlook of quiet confide[nce]. Ferry Pickering cover prin[ting,] packaging and publishing.

Interim payment raised by Emess

Although turnover of Lon[don-]based Emess Lighting spu[rted] by 43 per cent to £1.35m [in] the half-year to end-Decem[ber] pretax profits slipped f[rom] £170,000 to £162,000. But [the] board, lifting the interim [divi]dent from 3.57p to 3.92p gr[oss,] explains that Emess produce[d a] "resilient performance" in [the] half-year in "difficult and c[om]petitive" conditions.

Automated Securities up despite difficulties

By Rosemary Unsworth

Bankruptcies and companies going out of business during the recession have taken their toll of profits at Automated Security (Holdings), the rental security alarm business.

Although pretax profits climbed by 21 per cent from £1.55m to £1.88m in the year to last November 30, the group found that it had £300.000 more of bad debts than usual. Turnover rose by 22 per cent from £11.1m to £13.6m.

Interest charges also increased from £504,000 to £739,000 as borrowings rose from £2.1m to £2.3m, although the group's cash position improved from £400,000 to £900,000 at the year end.

Mr Thomas Buffett, the chairman, said that the two main factors affecting turnover and profit were interest rates and the collapse of the retail sector. "With more than 40,000 closures up and down the country we have had to take our fair share of bad debt. After all companies don't go bankrupt *without ewin gsomeone something.*"

But he stressed that the group was planning to strengthen the density of security rental operations by paying increased attention to the relatively untapped domestic market. Mr Buffett said that rented security alarms should have more appeal in the domestic market than bought ones because they reduced insurance premiums as they are fully maintained.

Rental income improved by 27 per cent to £5.2m last year while gross rental assets under the company's control increased by 34 per cent to £17m. Meanwhile "the motivating forces in the market, security demands due to crime or fire and property protection with high insurance costs and electronic security for labour savings, are still favourable", Mr Buffett said.

The group is also setting its sights on increased coverage of the North American market through investment in high technology operations, as well as an increased number of joint ventures with European partners.

The final dividend has been increased from 1.75p gross to 2p making a total of 3.42p against 2.86p.

Quick cuts payout after 88pc fall

By Catherine Gunn

Manchester Ford dealer H & J Quick has reported an 88 per cent pretax profit fall to just £128,000 for the year to December 31. The total dividend has been halved to 1.64p gross. Quick made £1.1m pretax in 1979.

These results were in line with market expectations after a similar performance in the first half. But with no interest shown in the shares, after a spate of poor figures from car dealers, the share price came back ½p to 34p after the figures.

Demand for new cars fell steeply last year and a 5 per cent rise in group sales to £81.1m masked a dramatic fall in volume. Quick delivered 13,335 new vehicles in 1980, against 14,287 the year before. New car volume was down by about 12 per cent. Mr Norman Quick, the group's chairman and managing director, said while new truck volume fell by about a quarter. As a result, group trading margins were forced down by 35 per cent.

Interest costs leapt by 38 per cent to £1.14m while bank overdrafts rose by two-fifths to £3.53m. More than half of group interest costs reflect the cost of deposits paid to Ford on new cars before delivery to Quick. But stocks themselves are lower now after the strike of Ford's own delivery drivers.

The new car market is showing a glimmer of an improvement, Mr. Quick says, while the fleet market is defini[tely] improving. But the commer[cial] vehicle market remains [...] depressed.

Used cars which pro[vide] about a fifth of group sa[les] are selling better now. Pa[rts] and servicing account [for] about a tenth of Quick's [...] sales. Last year parts did w[ell] but servicing suffered with [the] public doing less motoring.

Mr Quick believes that act[ion] taken in the first half [pre]vented a worse decline in [the] second. But he sees little ho[pe] of a recovery in the car mar[ket] until the second half of 19[81] particularly after the Bu[dget] increase in petrol prices. [And] he will not make any comm[ent] on the likelihood of a re[turn] to 1979 dividend levels u[ntil] the autumn.

Business appointments

New director for Trident General

Mr Gordon J. R. Hickmott has become director of Trident General Insurance Company. Mr Hickmott is chairman of the Institute of Arbitrators.

Mr D. J. Dry and Mr J. W. Mackenzie have been appointed to the board of Messina (Transvaal) Development Co. Mr R. N. McLeod has been appointed alternate to Messrs J. and J. W. Mackenzie.

Mr J. W. Hooke has been appointed to the board of BPC.

Mr Peter R. Sirs has been appointed a director of Burt Boulton Holdings.

Mr David S. Emm has been appointed a director of Crowner Publications.

Mr Brian Jenkins is to become managing director of Gold Crown Foods, a subsidiary of Argyll Foods.

Mr Michael Hartnall has been appointed chairman and managing director of Swift & Company.

Mr Ronnie Irving has been appointed managing director of James Harrison (Contracts).

Mr John Charnock has been promoted to director and general manager of McLean Homes North East.

Mr Graham Griffiss has been appointed managing director of C.T. Computer Services.

Mr John Whelan has been appointed president of the British Rigid Urethane Foam Manufacturers Association.

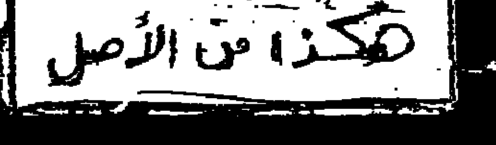
Mr Desmond Holmes, of Dublin, has become president of the Construction Surveyors' Institute.

Vice-presidents of the Institute [are] to be Mr Michael F. A. To[...] (first vice-president) and M[r ...] A. Khan (second vice-preside[nt]).

Mr H. S. Hill, director [and] general manager of APE-Bel[...] is the new president of Br[itish] Compressed Air Society.

Mr Ian Turner, at pre[sent] manufacturing director of Po[...] Duffryn Engineering, becom[es] managing director. Mr A. C. [...] Mossford, at present fina[ncial] director, becomes commer[cial] director.

Lord Mais, Mr J. S. Bro[...], Mr A. J. Adams, Sir Charles B[...], Mr D. Chance and Sir Will[...] Harris have been appointed [...] directors of Avenue Close, L[ord] Mais as chairman and Mr Bro[...] as managing director.



مكتبة من الاحل

MARKET REPORTS

Commodities

[illegible]OPPER bars were easy yesterday: [illegible]thodes closed easier.—Afternoon — [illegible]sh wire bars, £827-27.50 a metric [illegible]n; three months, £849-49.50. Sales, [illegible] Cash cathodes, £821-21.00: [illegible] months, £838-38.50. Sales, 700 [illegible] Morning.—Cash wire bars, [illegible] three months, [illegible] Settlement, [illegible] Sales, [illegible] tons. Cash cathodes, [illegible] three months, [illegible] Settlement, £828.00. Sales, 175 tons. [illegible]IN.—Standard tin was quiet; high-[illegible] idle. — Afternoon. — Standard [illegible], £6,180-90 a tonne; three months, [illegible]-40. Sales, 110 tonnes. High [illegible] cash, £6,180-90 three [illegible], £6,[illegible]-50. Sales, nil tonnes. [illegible]orning.—Standard, cash, £6,[illegible]; [illegible]ree months, £6,230-50. Settlement, [illegible]. Sales, 110 tonnes. High [illegible] cash, £6,[illegible] three months, [illegible]-50. Settlement, £6,1[illegible]. Sales, [illegible] tonnes. Singapore tin ex-works [illegible] by one cent yesterday to [illegible] [illegible] per kilo.

[illegible]EAD was barely steady.—Afternoon.—Cash £328-29.00 per tonne, three [illegible]nths, £335-36.00. Sales, 7,575 [illegible] Morning.—Cash, £332-33.50: [illegible]ree months, £337-38.00. Settlement, [illegible].50. Sales, 5,700 tonnes.

[illegible]NC was barely steady.—Afternoon — [illegible]sh, £350-52.00 per tonne, three [illegible]onths £361.50-62.00. Sales, 1,800 [illegible]nes. Morning.—Cash, £351-51.50; [illegible] months, £362-62.50. Settlement, [illegible].50. Sales, 2,600 tonnes.

[illegible]ATINUM was at £230.55 ($515.00) [illegible] ounce.

[illegible]LVER closed easier.—Bullion market [illegible] levels).—Spot, 559.20p per [illegible] ounce (United States cents [illegible]valent, 1,35[illegible]); three months, [illegible] (1,298.70c); six months, [illegible] (1,345.70c); one year, [illegible] (1,445.00c). London Metal [illegible]change.—Afternoon.—Cash, 552-[illegible]p, three months, 570-70.5p. Sales, [illegible] lots of 10,000 troy ounces each. [illegible]rning.—Cash, 560-61.0p; three [illegible]nths, 578-78.5p. Settlement, [illegible]1.0p. Sales, 60 lots.

[illegible]UMINIUM was steady.—Afternoon.—Cash, £635-37.00 per tonne, three [illegible]nths, £640.50-41.00. Sales, 1,975 [illegible]. Morning.—Cash, £638.50-35; [illegible] months, £640-41.00. Settlement, [illegible]. Sales, 1,950 tonnes.

[illegible]CKEL was barely steady.—Afternoon.—Cash, £2,820-30 per tonne; [illegible] months, £2,800-05. Sales, 204 [illegible]nes. Morning.—Cash, £2,835-40; [illegible] months, £2,810-12. Settlement, [illegible]. Sales, 360 tonnes.

[illegible]BBER was quiet and easier yesterday (pence per kilo): May, 56.10-[illegible]; June, 57.20-57.60; July-Sept, [illegible]; Oct-Dec, 62.70-62.80; [illegible]-March, 65.50-65.70; April-June, [illegible]; July-Sept, 71.20-71.30; [illegible]-Dec, 74.10-74.20; Jan-March, [illegible]-77.10. Sales: 272 lots at 15 [illegible] each.

[illegible]BBER PHYSICALS were slightly [illegible] (all pence per kilo).—Spot: [illegible]-55.75. Cif's: May, 58.00-58.50; [illegible], 58.75-59.50.

[illegible]OFFEE.—ROBUSTAS (£ per tonne): [illegible]rch, 1,050-1,052; May, 1,059-1,061; [illegible], 1,061-1,062; Sept, 1,062-1,063; [illegible], 1,058-1,061; Jan, 1,056-1,058; [illegible]rch, 1,048-1,055. Sales: 1,180 lots, [illegible]luding 19 options.

[illegible]ABICA (officials at 16.45).—April, [illegible]-145.00; June, 140.00-145.00; [illegible] 140.00-145.0; Oct, 140-145.00; [illegible], 138.00-145.00; Feb, 138.00-[illegible]; April, 137.00-141.00. Sales: [illegible]

[illegible]OCOA was slightly easier yesterday (£ per metric ton).—March 856-869; [illegible], 916-917; July, 943-944; Sep, [illegible]; Dec, 984-985; March 1004-[illegible]; May 1021-1024. Sales: 1,488 [illegible].

[illegible]GAR.—The London daily price of "raws" was £7.00 lower at £234; [illegible] "whites" price was £4.00 lower [illegible] £265. Futures (£ per tonne): May, [illegible]10-235.25; Aug, 230.50-230.75; [illegible], 227.00-227.25; Jan, 216.50-; [illegible] March, 215.75-216.50; May, [illegible]00-216.50; Aug, 216.00-218.00. [illegible] 5,818 lots. Closing tone: Barely [illegible]. ISA prices (March 27): daily, [illegible]; 15-day average, 21.77c.

[illegible]YABEAN MEAL was easier yesterday (£ per tonne):—April, 125.30-[illegible]; June, 124.10-24.30; Aug, [illegible]-26.50; Oct, 128.90-29.00; Dec, [illegible]-31.50; Feb, 131.50-33.00; [illegible], 132.00-36.00. Sales: 61 lots.

[illegible]OOL.—NZ Crossbreds, no. 2 con-[illegible] (cents per kilo).—March un-[illegible]; May, 347-351; Aug, 356-360; [illegible], 360-363; Dec, 370-371; Jan, 374-[illegible]; March, 378-383; May, 378-383; [illegible], 386-387. Sales: 23 lots.

[illegible]AIN. (The Baltic).—WHEAT.—Canadian western red spring unquoted. United States dark northern spring, no 2, 14 per cent; unquoted; United States hard winter, 13½ per cent: March £102.00; April, £102.40; May, £102.75 trans-shipment east coast. E.E.C. unquoted. English feed, fob: unquoted.

MAIZE.—United States.—French: unquoted. S. African White, unquoted. S. African Yellow, March-April, £87.00.

BARLEY.—English feed, fob: unquoted. All per tonne cif United Kingdom unless stated.

London Grain Futures Market (Gafta): E.E.C. origin.—BARLEY was barely steady yesterday.—May, £99.75; Sept, £95.20; Nov, £99.00; Jan, £102.50. Sales, 127 lots. WHEAT was about steady.—May, £113.75; July £116.40; Sept, £100.00; Nov, £103.50; Jan, £107.50. Sales: 123 lots.

Home-Grown Cereals Authority.—Location ex-farm spot prices.

	Other Milling WHEAT	Feed WHEAT	Feed BARLEY
Eastern	—	£110.60	£97.00
E Midlands	—	£111.10	£100.00
N East	—	£112.90	£100.00
Scotland	—	—	£95.20

MEAT COMMISSION: Average fatstock prices at representative markets on March 30.—GB: Cattle, 90.25p per kg lw (−0.43). UK Sheep, 180.54p per kg est d c w (+1.06). GB: Pigs, 71.24p per kg lw (+0.56). England and Wales: Cattle nos up 2.5 per cent, ave price, 90.25p (+0.16). Sheep nos up 8.2 per cent, ave price, 183.56p (−0.56). Pig nos down 6.8 per cent, ave price, 71.48p (+0.77). Scotland: Cattle nos up 2.5 per cent, ave price, 90.18p (−1.56). Sheep nos down 9.4 per cent, ave price, 173.70p (−4.44). Pig nos up 6.2 per cent, ave price, 68.68p (−0.51).

POTATOES (Gafta).—April, £52.70; Nov, £57.70; Feb, £66.60. Sales, 41 lots (of 40 tonnes each).

LONDON TEA MARKET.—Tea market sources reported good general demand for the 40,094 packages offered at yesterday's auction.

Brighter Assams were well bid for, although plainer sorts were irregularly lower. Less interest was noted for quality and brokens.

No interest was evident for plainer sylhets, although brighter lines sold readily at firm-to-higher prices.

Prices of East African teas were irregular, and often lower, except for bright dusts, which rose.

The sources said prices of Central African teas were firm-to-sometimes higher.

Demand remained strong at firm prices for Ceylon and South Indian teas.—Reuter

London cocoa futures steady

Cocoa futures fluctuated in a £13 per tonne trading range in London yesterday, to close £1.00 to £5.00 down on balance, slightly under midsession levels, but up from the "lows".

Turnover was 1,488 lots, including 378 lots crossed. Dealers said prices had eased on belated hedge and mixed selling, but shortcovering provided late support.

Colombia, Mexico sign Cocoa Pact: Colombia and Mexico, both cocoa-growing nations, have signed the new world Cocoa Pact, an International Cocoa Organization official said.

LME metal stocks

London Metal Exchange metal stocks, at 27 March, in metric tons, except as noted (with previous week in brackets): Copper, 117,025 (118,475); Tin, 5,565 (6,045); Aluminum, 43,125 (45,350); Nickel, 3,630 (3,696); Lead, 50,925 (53,050); Zinc, 88,850 (88,825); Silver, (in troy ounces), 24.25m. 24.01m.).

Discount market

Money markets were becoming increasingly nervous and uncertain yesterday because of the disruptions caused by the strikes by civil servants and bank employees. As a consequence of these strikes, banks carried across the weekend balances that were an extremely large amount above target. This lone plus-factor enabled the market to have a day of fairly comfortable credit conditions.

Foreign exchange report

Foreign exchange trading was very restricted yesterday as operators kept commitments down to a minimum pending the outcome of the talks aimed at averting the Polish national strike.

Most currencies fluctuated narrowly throughout in thin and nervous conditions.

The pound closed about 50 points better at $2.2335 ($2.2280), after a "high" of $2.2420, while its trade-weighted average finished 0.2 up at 100.6 after 100.7 for most of the session.

Small mixed movements occurred against Europeans like the mark, 4.7025 (Friday, 4.7100), the Swiss Franc, 4.2900 (4.2950) and the French Franc, 11.1100 (11.1050).

Undecided for much of the day, the dollar turned downwards late to show falls against the Swiss Franc, 1.9220 (1.9335), the Guilder, 2.3410 (2.3515) and the lira, 1,057.50 (1,063.50). Still nervous over the Polish situation, the mark finally improved to 2.1133 (2.1210).

Sterling: Spot and Forward

	Market rates (day's range) March 30	Market rates (close) March 30	1 month	3 months
New York	$2.2200-2430	$2.2330-2340	.52-.62c disc	1.35-1.45c disc
Montreal	$2.6460-6620	$2.6510-6520	1.15-1.25c disc	2.90-3.05c disc
Amsterdam	5.22-28fl	5.22-23fl	1⅛-¼c prem	3-2c prem
Brussels	77.10-78.10f	77.20-30f	110-130c disc	140-160c disc
Copenhagen	14.79-95k	14.79-81k	par-160ore disc	535-720ore disc
Dublin	1.2895-3025p	1.2900-2915p	20-33p disc	56-72p disc
Frankfurt	4.69-77m	4.69¾-70¼m	¼pf prem-¼pf disc	par-½pf disc
Lisbon	127.00-80e	127.05-30e	15-45c disc	15-385c disc
Madrid	192.20-193.20p	192.30-60p	55-100c disc	165-220c disc
Milan	2361-75lr	2362-64lr	15¼-17¼lr disc	43½-46½lr disc
Oslo	12.02-15k	12.03½-04½k	45ore prem-85ore d	95ore prem-50ore disc
Paris	11.10-21f	11.10½-11½f	½c prem-½c disc	¼-1¼c disc
Stockholm	10.30-38k	10.30½-32½k	350-430ore disc	850-945ore disc
Tokyo	470-77y	471½-72½y	2.00-1.45y prem	5.50-4.90y prem
Vienna	33.30-85sch	33.33-38sch	3gro prem-pargro	10-pargro
Zurich	4.28-34f	4.28½-29½f	2¾-1¼c prem	5½-4½c prem

Effective exchange rate compared to 1975 was up 0.2 at 100.6.

Other Markets

Australia	1.9200-1.9350
Bahrein	0.8415-0.8445
Finland	9.0955-9.1365
Greece	114.75-116.75
Hongkong	11.8090-11.8490
Iran	not available
Kuwait	0.6130-0.6160
Malaysia	5.1075-5.1375
Mexico	52.40-53.90
New Zealand	2.4280-2.4480
Saudi Arabia	7.48-7.51
Singapore	4.6625-4.6925
South Africa	1.7845-1.7995

Indices

	Bank of England Index	Morgan Guaranty Changes %
Sterling	100.6	−26.2
US dollar	100.5	−3.8
Canadian dollar	85.9	−17.7
Schilling	116.3	+21.6
Belgian franc	107.8	+9.1
Danish kroner	89.6	−10.5
Deutsche mark	121.1	+41.2
Swiss franc	135.4	+76.4
Guilder	112.7	+15.4
French franc	86.9	−9.1
Lira	59.4	−55.4
Yen	144.1	+39.7

Based on trade weighted changes from Washington agreement December, 1971.
(Bank of England Index 100).

Dollar Spot Rates

* Ireland	1.7195-1.7215
† Canada	1.1877-1.1880
Netherlands	2.3400-2.3420
Belgium	34.65-34.68
Denmark	6.6550-6.6600
West Germany	2.1125-2.1138
Portugal	56.97-57.07
Spain	86.08-86.13
Italy	1057-1058
Norway	5.3900-5.4000
France	4.9350-4.9900
Sweden	4.6150-4.6200
Japan	211.40-211.60
Austria	14.9450-14.9550
Switzerland	1.9220-1.9235

* Ireland quoted in US currency.
† Canada $1 : US $0.8418-0.8421

Money Market Rates

Bank of England MLR 12%

(Last changed 10/3/81)

Clearing Banks Base Rate 12%

Discount Mkt Loans %
Overnight: High 12 Low 11½

Week Fixed: 12

Treasury Bills (Dis%)

Buying		Selling	
2 months	11⅞	2 months	11½
3 months	11 17/32	3 months	11 15/32

Prime Bank Bills (Dis%)		Trades (Dis%)	
2 months	11 13/16-11 11/16	3 months	12⅛
3 months	11 11/16-11 9/16	4 months	12⅛
4 months	11⅝-11½	6 months	12
6 months	11 9/16-11 7/16		

Local Authority Bonds

1 month	13⅝-13½	7 months	12½-12¼
2 months	13¼-13	8 months	12½-12¼
3 months	13-12¾	9 months	12⅝-12⅜
4 months	13-12¾	10 months	12⅝-12⅜
5 months	12⅞-12⅝	11 months	12⅝-12⅜
6 months	12¾-12½	12 months	12½-12¼

Secondary Mkt. £CD Rates (%)

1 month	12 15/16-12 7/16	6 months	12¼-12
3 months	12½-12⅜	12 months	12 1/16-11 15/16

Local Authority Market (%)

2 days	12⅝-12½	3 months	12⅝
7 days	12⅝-12⅜	6 months	12½
1 month	12⅝	1 year	12⅜

Interbank Market (%)

Overnight: Open 12½-11½ Close 12½

1 week	12⅝-12½	6 months	12 7/16-12 5/16
1 month	12⅝-12½	9 months	12⅜-12¼
3 months	12⅝-12½	12 months	12⅜-12¼

First Class Finance Houses (Mkt. Rate%)
3 months 13 6 months 12⅞

Finance House Base Rate 14%

EMS Currency Rates

	ECU central rates	currency against ECU	% change from central rate†	% change adjusted†*	divergence limit % plus/minus
Belgian franc	40.7985	41.6783	+2.16	+1.98	1.53
Danish krone	7.91917	7.99286	+0.93	+0.75	1.64
German D-mark	2.54502	2.54223	−0.12	−0.30	1.14
French franc	5.99526	5.99000	−0.09	−0.27	1.365
Dutch guilder	2.81318	2.81371	+0.02	−0.16	1.515
Irish punt	0.685145	0.697063	+1.74	+1.56	1.665
Italian lira	1262.92	1268.12	+0.41	+0.23	4.11

† changes are for the ECU therefore positive change denotes weak currency.
* adjusted for sterling's weight in the ECU, and for the lira's wider divergence limits.
Adjustment calculated by The Times.

Euro-$ Deposits

(%) calls, 13-14; seven days, 14⅝-14⅞; one month, 15 7/16-15 11/16; three months, 14¾-15; six months, 14¾-15.

Gold

Gold fixed: am, $529.50 (an ounce); pm, $526.50 close, $522.50.
Krugerrand (per coin): $538-541 (£240.75-242.25).
Sovereigns (new): $132-134 (£59.60).

Wall Street

New York, March 30. — Confusion over President Reagan's condition after an assassination attempt closed the New York stock market early and prices ended lower in moderate trading.

The market was firming earlier but abruptly reversed course after news of the shooting incident outside a Washington hotel.

Yesterday's Wall Street and Canadian closing prices will appear tomorrow. Later publication, caused by the change to British Summer Time, will continue until Eastern Daylight Time begins in the United States.

Prices stabilized for a while on reports President Reagan was not hit by the shots. Later reports that he was in hospital with a chest wound sent prices falling again and trading was halted.

The Dow Jones industrial average, up six points earlier, ended down three. Declines led advances eight to seven and volume was about 34,000,000 shares compared with 46,930,000 traded Friday.

The stock exchange did not issue a formal statement but a spokesman said an announcement would be made in the morning about when the market would reopen.

Mr Michael Metz of Oppenheimer and Company said he was "absolutely stunned" by the report. He said it "was not clear what was going on and of course they closed down trading."

GOLD futures rose around $10 an ounce. CHICAGO IMM —June, $[illegible].10; July, $628.40 nominal; Sept, $6[illegible]; Dec, $6[illegible]; March, $670.00; April, $6[illegible].00 nominal; June $658.00; July, $670.00. NY COMEX.—April, $5[illegible]-514.30; May, $518.30; June, $523.50-525.50; Aug, $535.00-538.00; Oct, $549.20; Dec, $558.00-563.00; Feb, $573.80; April, $586.10; June, $598.50; Aug, $610.20; Oct, $623.40; Dec, $636.10; Feb, $648.90.

SILVER futures closed down the 50-cent limit. Spot April cut its loss to 50 cents at $12.17 an ounce, after meeting scattered support at $12.00. However, futures contracts were offered down the 50-cent limit, with the May delivery settling at $12.42 — April, 1212.00-1218.00c; May, 12[illegible].00c; June, 1259.00c; July, 1274.50c; Sept, 1307.00c; Dec, 13[illegible].00c; Jan, 1372.00c; March, [illegible].50c; May, 14[illegible].70c; July, 1469.50c; Sept, 1502.00c; Dec, 1551.00c.

COTTON futures were: May, 86.00-86.10c; July, 87.00-87.20c; Oct, 85.40c; Dec, 82.60c; March, 83.25 bid-83.50c asked; May, 83.75 bid-84.25c asked; July, 84.50 bid-85.00c asked.

COPPER posted declines of 0.20c to 0.70c. April, 84.65c; May, 85.70-85.80c; June, 86.70c; July, 87.70-87.80c; Sept, 90.00c; Dec, 93.00-93.20c; Jan, 93.95c; March, 95.90c; May, 97.80c; July, 99.75c; Sept, 101.70c; Dec, 104.55c; Jan, 105.50c.

SUGAR futures were: May, 21.00-21.10c; July, 21.05-21.10c; Sept, 20.90c; Oct, 20.70-20.75c; Jan 19.75 bid-19.90c asked; March, 19.85 bid-19.90c asked; May, 19.85 bid-19.95c asked; July, 19.55 bid-20.05c asked.

COFFEE futures were: May, 127.80c; July, 126.90-127.2[illegible]c; Sept, 127.00c; Dec, 124.50-124.7[illegible]c; March, 123.75c; May, 123.65 bid-124.00c asked; July, 123.75 bid-124.00c asked.

CHICAGO SOYABEANS. Futures rallied to close on top of a 21 cent range, up 3½ to six cents a bushel in revived trade. Oil finished on top of a wide 0.65c range up 0.30c to 0.25c a lb in mostly local dealings. Meal closed $1.50 a ton higher to unchanged. — SOYABEANS. — May, 772-[illegible]c; July, 796-775c; Aug, 804-784c; Sept, 811-791c; Nov, 820-800½c; Jan, 832½-[illegible]c; March, 862-845c; May, 87[illegible]-860c. SOYABEAN OIL. May, 24.90c; July, 25.70-25.65c; Aug, 25.95c; Sept, 26.15c; Oct, 26.40-26.45c; Dec, 27.00-27.05c; Jan, 27.25c; March, 27.70 bid-27.80c asked; May, 28.20 bid-28.30c asked. SOYABEAN MEAL. May, $21.80-219.5[illegible]; July, $226.00; Aug, $228.50 bid-229.00 asked; Sept, $230.50 bid-231.50 asked; Oct, $233.50 bid-234.00 asked; Dec, $237.00 bid-237.50 asked; Jan, $239.50 bid - 240.00 asked; March, 245.00 bid - 245.00 asked.

CHICAGO GRAINS.—Wheat futures closed with mixed losses, up ¾ cent a bushel to down two cents in mostly local trade. Only nearby may settled higher. Corn futures rallied to finish up 1 cent a bushel in old crop to 4 cents in new crop. WHEAT. May, [illegible]; July, 43[illegible]-420c; Sept, 448½-[illegible]; Dec, 46[illegible]; March, 486½-[illegible]. CORN. May, 362½-357¾c; July, 372-365c; Sept, 374¾-[illegible]; Dec, 37[illegible]-36[illegible]c; March 38[illegible]-380c; May, [illegible]. OATS. May, 218-215c; July, 207½-205½c; Sept, 207½-205½c; Dec, 218½-215 2/5c.

Trading was halted after the assassination attempt on President Reagan.

Three-sided merger in Australia

Pioneer Concrete Services plans to merge with Kathleen Investments (Australia) and Queensland Mines by offering to acquire all of the issued capital of both companies.

Pioneer already holds a 59.11 per cent interest in Kathleen Investments through a company owned jointly with its 64 per cent-owned subsidiary Ampol Petroleum.

While neither Pioneer nor Ampol has any direct stake in Queensland Mines, Kathleen Investments holds 50 per cent of Queensland mines.

International

Pioneer said it expected a moderate improvement in 1980-81 profits. First half net profits to December 31 rose by 31 per cent to $A19.89m (£10m) from $A15.2m. The interim dividend has been maintained at 5 cents.

Pioneer said its Australian operations showed an acceptable improvement based mainly on its mining and associated activities.

Operations in south-east Asia, Italy and South Africa also improved, but returns from other European and North American subsidiaries reflected the generally subdued economic conditions prevailing in those areas.

The group's United Kingdom operation was particularly hard hit, suffering its first trading losses in many years.

Pioneer said there were signs the worst of the decline in its United Kingdom business was over, but no improvement is expected before the start of its next fiscal year on July 1.

Hongkong bank takeover

The Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation said it had completed arrangements to acquire a 78 per cent interest in Equator Bank, a merchant bank incorporated in the Bahamas, which provides trade and project financing to west central and east Africa.

It said Wardley Ltd would acquire initially 72 per cent and Marine Midland Bank, a subsidiary of Marine Midland Banks Inc, 6 per cent.

The Hongkong bank group's interest cost US$6.6m (£2.9m) and the present controlling shareholder, the Royal Bank of Canada, has withdrawn from Equator. The balance of the shares is held by Hartford National Bank of Connecticut and Helmboldt, Montgomery and Co.

Carlton and United

Carlton and United Breweries of Melbourne will buy the 19.99 per cent stake in Elder Smith Goldsbrough Mort now held by merchant bank BT Australia, Henry Jones (IXL) Ltd said.

In a statement detailing its own plans to merge with the South Australian Pastoral House, Jones said Carlton and United was making the acquisition after an offer received from BT Australia.

Authorized Units, Insurance & Offshore Funds

1980/81 High Bid	Low Offer	Trust	Bid	Offer	Yield
		Authorized Unit Trusts			
		Abbey Unit Trust Managers. 72-80 Gatehouse Rd, Aylesbury, Bucks. 0296-5941			
62.1	47.1	American Growth	59.6	64.1	2.26
47.3	33.1	Capital	47.1	50.9	4.82
57.3	44.0	General	56.8	61.4	4.70
116.6	100.7	Gilt & Fixed Int	106.2	111.8	11.72
37.8	27.3	Income	36.5	39.4	8.81
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
		Cent Board of Fin of The Church of England 77 London Wall, London, EC2N 1DR 01-588 1815			
184.9	144.6	Invest (34)	182.2	..	5.76
112.3	101.2	Fixed Int (34)	108.4	..	12.59
		Charinco Charities Narrower-Range Fund. 15 Moorgate, London, EC2. 01-628 4121			
122.1	108.2	Income (34)	119.3	..	11.77
206.1	161.6	Do Accum (34)	206.1	..	11.74
		Lloyds Bank Unit Trust Managers. Goring-by-Sea, Worthing, W Sussex. 01-623 1288			
71.3	55.8	Balanced	71.1	76.4	4.58
108.0	81.2	Do Accum	107.7	115.8	4.58
50.0	49.8	Energy Int	47.8	50.5	1.98
50.0	49.8	Do Accum	47.0	50.5	1.98
85.2	59.2	Worldwide	85.2	91.6	2.14
112.9	76.9	Do Accum	112.9	121.3	2.14
		Scotbits Securities Ltd.			
50.7	38.3	Scotbits	50.1	53.8	4.38
84.6	69.4	Scotshares	84.6	90.9	4.50
54.5	47.0	Scotyields	53.4	57.4	8.26
		Schroder Unit Trust Manager Ltd. 48 St Martins Lane, WC2N 4EF. 0705 27733			
50.9	50.0	American	50.5	54.2	2.00
50.9	50.0	Do Accum	50.5	54.2	2.00
96.3	100.0	Money Pen	96.3	101.5	..
97.6	100.0	High Yld Pen	97.6	102.8	..
126.1	84.7	ANEV/Fram Am	126.1	132.9	..
118.5	95.9	Do Income	118.5	124.9	..
141.5	96.7	Do Intl Gr'th	141.5	149.1	..
125.1	100.5	Do Capital	125.1	131.8	..
		Barclays Life Assurance Co. Unicorn Hse, 252 Romford Rd, E7. 01-534 5544			
		Irish Life Assurance. 11 Finsbury Sq, London, EC2. 01-628 8253			
245.4	226.1	Prop Modules	230.3	242.4	..
286.5	269.4	Do Growth (31)	274.4	288.8	..
134.0	126.2	Do Series 2	128.6	135.3	..
150.2	135.9	Exmpt Managed	143.7	151.3	..
287.6	257.7	Managed Fnd	267.5	281.6	..
115.7	103.7	Do Series 2	107.4	113.0	..
		Prudential Pensions Ltd. Holborn Bars, EC1N 2NH. 01-405 9222			
37.40	28.90	Equity	£37.40	38.56	..
24.97	20.30	Fixed Int	£24.97	25.30	..
43.56	35.80	Property	£43.56	44.91	..
		Reliance Mutual Insurance Society Ltd. Tunbridge Wells, Kent. 0892 22271			
		Vanbrugh Life Assurance Ltd. 41-43 Maddox St, London, W1R 9LA. 01-499 4923			
198.1	157.4	Managed Fund	197.2	207.6	..
338.8	258.4	Do Equity	333.3	350.9	..
194.3	173.3	Do Fixed Int	191.3	201.4	..
206.6	187.2	Do Property	206.6	217.5	..
148.8	139.1	Do Cash	148.8	156.7	..
128.5	94.8	Do Int	127.5	134.3	..
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

Slow start to account

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Began, March 30. Dealings End, April 9. § Contango Day, April 10. Settlement Day, April 21

§ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days

BRITISH FUNDS

1980/81 High	Low	Stock		Price	Ch'ge	Int. only Yield	Gross Red. Yield
SHORTS							
99¾	91	Exch	8¾% 1981	99¾	..	8.314	11.861
93½	91	Exch	8½% 1981	99½	..	9.584	12.063
96⅞	85½	Exch	3% 1981	96⅞	..	3.105	11.953
100¹⁵⁄₁₆	93⅞	Exch	12¾% 1981	100⁵⁄₁₆	..	12.710	12.181
97⅞	88	Treas	8½% 1980-82	97¼	..	8.741	12.167
95¼	83⅝	Treas	3% 1982	94⅜	..	3.178	9.804
102⅞	90½	Treas	14% 1982	101⅞	−⅛	13.742	11.856
95⅜	85⅝	Treas	8¼% 1982	95⁵⁄₁₆	−⅟₁₆	8.656	12.366
96	85⅜	Exch	9¼% 1983	95⅟₁₆	−⅟₁₆	9.704	12.792
94½	84⅛	Exch	8¼% 1983	94⅟₁₆	−⅟₁₆	9.277	12.413
89¼	76½	Exch	3% 1983	88½	−⅛	3.388	9.782
99⁷⁄₁₆	85⅜	Treas	12% 1983	98¹¹⁄₁₆	−⅟₁₆	12.161	12.769
94⅟₁₆	84⅛	Treas	9¼% 1983	93⅟₁₆	−⅟₁₆	9.888	13.560
102⅛	94¼	Exch	13½% 1983	101⅟₁₆	−⅟₁₆	13.324	12.889
94⅟₁₆	84¼	Exch	10% 1983	93⅟₁₆	−⅟₁₆	10.688	12.883
87⅞	76⅝	Fund	5½% 1982-84	86⅝	−⅛	6.351	11.186
97⅟₁₆	86⅞	Exch	11¼% 1984	96⅟₁₆	−⅛	11.713	12.918
104⅟₁₆	94½	Exch	14% 1984	102¹¹⁄₁₆	−⅟₁₆	13.632	12.931
80⅜	68¼	Exch	3% 1984	80	−¼	3.750	10.465
99⅝	88	Treas	12% 1984	97¹³⁄₁₆	−⅟₁₆	12.269	12.776
109¼	97⅞	Treas	15% 1985	107	−¼	14.018	12.664
92⅞	96¹⁵⁄₁₆	Exch Cv	12% 1985	98¼	−⅛	12.215	12.543
75⅜	68¹⁵⁄₁₆	Treas	3% 1985	74⅞	−¼	4.005	10.634
MEDIUMS							
103¾	88½	Exch	12¼% 1985	98	−¼	12.500	12.624
97⅛	93½	Exch	11¼% 1986	96⅝	−¼	12.224	12.834
69¹³⁄₁₆	69¼	Treas	3% 1986	69¼	−¼	4.346	11.055
89⅞	78⅞	Treas	8½% 1984-86	86⅞	−½	9.894	12.452
105½	90⅝	Exch	13¼% 1987	103⅞	−½	13.223	13.200
81⅛	70⅝	Fund	6½% 1985-87	77½	•−⅝	8.329	11.628
90⅝	91⅛	Treas	12% 1987	93¼	•−½	12.730	13.337
83	71⅞	Treas	7¾% 1985-88	79½	−½	9.917	12.611
65⅝	54½	Trans	3% 1978-88	63⅞	−⅛	4.756	10.343
98	82⅞	Treas	11½% 1989	90⅞	−⅞	12.817	13.862
68¼	57⅜	Treas	5% 1986-89	64⅞	•−⅛	7.678	11.538
104⅛	89⅞	Treas	13% 1990	100	−⅞	13.345	13.511

SHIPPING

1980/81 High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div pence	Yld %	P/E
346	178	Brit & Comm	325	+7	17.9	5.5	[illegible]
338	228	Caledonia Inv	282	..	17.9	6.3	[illegible]
208	116½	Fisher J.	168	..	3.1	1.8	13
41	31	Jacobs J. I.	35½	−2	3.3	9.5	[illegible]
148	85½	Ocean Trans	146	..	12.7	8.7	17
148	105	P & O 'Dfd'	148	+6½	10.0	6.8	[illegible]

MINES

1980/81 High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div pence	Yld %	P/E
16½	8½	Anglo Am Coal	£14½	..	60.7	4.2	
892	485	Anglo Am Corp	675	−19	48.0	7.1	
59¼	30⅛	Ang Am Gold	£40¼	• −3¹³⁄₁₆	653	16.2	
56⅝	36⁷⁄₁₆	Anglo Am Inv	£42	−1¼	161	3.8	
22	13⅜	Anglo Transvl	£19	..	144	7.4	
22	13¾	Do 'A'	£19	.	144	7.6	
25	13½	Asarco	£20½	−⅟₁₆	60.0	3.0	
73	43	Boralt Tin	59	.	7.1	12.1	
12½	4⅞	Blyvoors	£7⅞	−⅛	196	27.8	
277	119	Bracken Mines	158	• −24	38.5	24.6	
29¹⁵⁄₁₆	11⅞	Buffelsfontein	£19¹¹⁄₁₆	−⅛	419	21.3	
350	213	CRA	251	−2			

TEA

1980/81 High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div pence	Yld %	P/E
248	198	Assam Frontier	199		14.3	7.2	
495	250	Camellia Inv	435	..	7.1	1.6	
378	279	McLeod Russel	332	+2	21.4	6.5	
332	263	Moran	272	..	4.64	1.7	
158	100	Surman Valley	100	−3	3.2	3.2	
225	132¼	Warren Plant	225	+8	14.3b	6.4	

MISCELLANEOUS

1980/81 High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div pence	Yld %	P/E
48	25	Calcutta Elec	28		6.8	24.2	
34½	28½	Essex Wtr 3.5%	£32		500	15.2	
27½	19	Gt Nthn Tele	£24	..	146	6.1	8.6
353	197	Imp Cont Gas	218	+3	10.1	4.6	10.3
195	93	Milford Docks	133	−5	9.8	7.4	
190	88	Nesco Inv	190	+15	10.0	5.3	
35	28½	Sunderlnd Wtr	£32⅞		900	15.4	

• Ex dividend. a Ex all. b Forecast dividend. c Corrected price. e Interim payment passed. f Price at suspension. g Dividend and yield exclude a special payment. h Bid for company. k Pre-merger figures. n Forecast earnings. p Ex capital distribution. r Ex rights. s Ex scrip or share split. t Tax free. y Price adjusted for late dealings. .. No significant data.

RECENT ISSUES

	Closing Price
Bristol Water 8% Red Pref 1986 (*b)	£12
British Aerospace 50p Ord (150)	193-2
Cystic Fibrosis Res'ch Inv Tst £1 (£1)	114-3
Do 5% Deb 1986 (£100)	[illegible]
Espley-Tyas Prop Grp 25p Ord (75)	94
Exchequer 12½% 1990 (£95)	£14-½
Exchequer 12¼% 'B' 1999 (*)	[illegible]
Lon Merchant Secs 7¾% Cnv Ln 2000-06	[illegible]
Mid-Sussex Water 8% Red Pref 1986 (*)	£10⅝
Munton Bros 10p Ord (18)	20
New Darien Oil Trust 25p Ord (100)	94-1
Oil and Gas Production 2c Ord (42)	39
Portals 9½% Cnv 1994-2000 (‡)	£134
Sutton District Wtr 8% Red Pref 1986 (*b)	£13
TR Energy 25p Ord (£1)	98
Treasury 12% 1986 (*b)	[illegible]
Treasury 2% Index Linked 1996 (‡)	£34
West Hampshire Wtr 8% Red Pref 1986 (*b)	£10⅝

RIGHTS ISSUES	Latest date of renun	
Barker Dobson 'A' (2p)	May 29	2 prem
Broken Hill Props (473c)	Apr 30	200 prem-5
IMI (46p)	May 29	12½ prem-½

Issue price in parentheses. • Ex dividend. * Issued by tender. ‡ Nil paid. a £60 paid. b £10 paid. f Fully paid. g £40 paid. h £50 paid. i £15 paid.

هكذا من الأصل

PERSONAL CHOICE

Ralph Bonner (Alec McCowan) with his old primary school teacher Miss Ball (Margaret Tyzack) in tonight's play The Reason of Things (ITV 9.00).

● Plays for Pleasure is the general title for a group of six plays in Yorkshire TV's new drama series. If the standard set by the first one, The Reason of Things (ITV 9.00 pm), is maintained then it is very apt. The play is delightful and moving, written by Freda Kelsall and starring Alec McCowan and Margaret Tyzack. The part played by Miss Tyzack is that of a draconian schoolmistress, Miss Ball. Alec McCowan plays one of her former pupils, Ralph Bonner a London antique dealer, who returns to the northern seaside town to which he was evacuated, to trace one of a pair of duelling pistols he remembers a girl classmate had once brought to school. Flashbacks reveal the rapport between Bonner and Miss Ball and when he meets her again, thirty-five years on, it still exists. What he has been unsure of over the years is why he can enjoy life without being married or in any way encumbered with a bedmate. From the flashbacks and his present day meeting with the classmate he realizes why. Bonner as a boy is played superbly by Paul Davies-Prowles and his classmate Rosie Warwick by Suzy Corrigan.

● Angling is said to be the leading participatory sport in the country. If this is so then the afficionados must surely be dissatisfied with the television coverage of their particular passion. There has certainly been the occasional one-off programme mainly catering for the fly fisherman, but nothing for the angler to settle into over a period of weeks. But now, to coincide with the close season for coarse fishing, the BBC have recorded a competition held last autumn at the Edgbaston Reservoir in Birmingham (Hooked BBC 2, 8.30 pm). Thirty of the country's finest coarse fishermen competed in groups of six, the one with the heaviest catch going forward to the final six weeks hence. Each week a personality with an affinity to fishing will present the programme, chat to the competitors and try to get these experts to pass on some of their knowledge which will be of interest to the beginner and experienced angler alike. This week, without his boater and cane, it is Frankie Vaughan.

● Alfred Williams was a remarkable, if little known, man. He started life as a farm worker but left the fields to drive a steam hammer in the Swindon works of the Great Western Railways. While in the factory he taught himself Greek and Latin and, after serving in India during World War One, Sanskrit, eventually translating from all three. He wrote a classic documentary, Life in a Railway Factory, published collections of poems, folk songs and translations of traditional Indian stories. He died of starvation in 1930. John Wells, better known as the co-author of Dear Bill in a certain twice-monthly magazine, has written and narrates Radio 3's Life of Williams (Hammerman 9.55 pm). The voice of Williams is taken by Timothy West.

WHAT THE SYMBOLS MEAN: † STEREO; ★ BLACK AND WHITE; (r) REPEAT.

Broadcasting Guide

Edited by Peter Dear

TELEVISION

BBC 1

6.40 am Open University: Enzyme Structure and Function; **7.05** Simulation Modelling; **7.30** Journey into Frequency Space; Closedown at 7.55.
9.35 For Schools, Colleges: Mathematics; **9.57** The Challenging Bull — a story to stimulate language development; **10.16** Banner headlines; **10.38** Religious and Moral Education; **11.00** Indian Dancing; **11.17** Television Club; **11.38** Malcolm Muggeridge gives his views on Shakespeare's Timon of Athens; **12.05 pm** Art and War; Closedown at 12.30.
12.45 News.
1.00 Pebble Mill at One. Included in today's edition is Family Matters, the weekly advice spot for people who have domestic problems. The experts giving advice are Dr David Devlin, Pat Petch, Brian Jackson and Vincent Duggleby; **1.45** Pigeon Street; Closedown at 2.00.
2.14 For Schools, Colleges: German conversation; **2.40** Home economics — Animal foods; Closedown at 3.00.
3.20 Pobol y Cwm: Welsh serial; **3.55 Play School** (shown earlier on BBC 2).
4.20 Winsome Witch: The enchanting heroine finds a home for an unwelcome puppy in Welcome Wagging (r); **4.25 Jackanory:** Sheila Steafel continues with Forrest Wilson's story, Super Gran; **4.40 What's the Idea:** The first in a new series featuring Wilf Lunn, who introduces some strange ideas, weird designs and outrageous inventions. This afternoon he discusses Worms, Chickens and Eggs; **5.05 John Craven's Newsround:** World news for young people; **5.10 The Children of Fire Mountain:** Part five of the adventure serial set in New Zealand at the turn of the century.
5.40 News: read by Kenneth Kendall; **5.55** Regional news magazines, **6.20 Nationwide; 6.45 Rolf Harris Cartoon Time:** The eager Antipodean introduces three cartoons starring Droopy, Foghorn Leghorn and Bugs Bunny (r); **7.15 Taxi:** A comedy series about taxi drivers in New York. This evening one of their number hands over his life savings for a luxury apartment only to discover it is the first month's rent.
7.40 Seapower: The last in the series sees Admiral of the Fleet the Lord Hill-Norton explaining the history and modern day role of the Destroyer.
8.10 When the Boat Comes In: Jack has to deal with the seductive sister of a millionaire when he acts as guarantor in the sale of a valuable emerald necklace.
9.00 News read by Jan Leeming.
9.25 Play: Bavarian Night by Andrew Davies starring Bob Peck and Sarah Badel. A Jack Gold-directed comedy about the emotional reactions that occur when the headmaster of a local primary school hires a Bavarian band to liven up the proceedings at a fund-raising social.
10.45 Omnibus: An Actor's Life for Me. A galaxy of British actors and actresses recount the incidents that loom large in their careers. Some stories are sad, some comic but they are all entertaining.
11.33 News headlines.
11.35 Platform One: The first of a two-part debate East v West — War or Peace? The two debaters are Vladimir Pozner, a leading Soviet commentator in Moscow, and Robert Kaiser of the *Washington Post*. In the chair is *The Times* Political Editor, Fred Emery. The subject discussed this evening is Foreign Policy.
12.05 am Weather.

Regions

BBC 1 VARIATIONS: Cymru, Wales: 11.38 am-12.03 pm Dechrau Sarae. 3.20-3.55 Closedown. 5.10-5.40 Bilidowcar. 5.55-6.20 Wales Today. 6.45-7.10 Heddiw. 7.10-7.40 Pobol Y Cwm. 12.05 am News and weather. **Scotland:** 10.38 am-10.58 For Schools. 12.40 pm-12.45 The Scottish News. 3.20-3.55 Closedown. 5.55-6.20 Reporting Scotland. 6.45-7.15 Rolf Harris Cartoon Time. 10.45-11.15 Current Account. 11.15-12.10 am Omnibus: Norman Foster. 12.10 News and weather. **Northern Ireland:** 10.38 am-10.58 For Schools. 3.20 pm-3.53 Closedown. 3.53-3.55 Northern Ireland News. 5.55-6.20 Scene Around Six. 6.45-7.15 Make Mine Country. 10.45-11.15 Gallery. This is Showbusiness. 11.15-12.05 am Omnibus (as BBC 1 at 10.45 pm). 12.05 News and weather. **England:** 5.55 pm-6.20 Regional Magazines. 6.45-7.15 East — Focus. Troubled Waters. London and South East — Rolf Harris Cartoon Time. Midlands — Look! Hear! North — Hometown: Knaresborough. North East — The Four Great Seasons. North West — Towards Tomorrow. South — The Getaways. 'Skydancer'. South West — The Attic Archives. West — Day Out. Taunton. 12.10 am Close.

BBC 2

6.40 am Open University: R. M. Schindler; **7.05** Too busy to Hate; **7.30** Bronze Casting; Closedown at 7.55.
11.00 Play School: Entertainment for the under fives presented by Carol Chell and Ben Thomas. The story is Dan the Roadsweeper by Diane Wilmer. 11.25 Closedown.
4.50 pm Open University: Disaster Simulation 1: The Event; **5.15** Wolverton for Pride: The Interview; **5.40** Handicapped in the Community; **6.05** Ministers Talking; **6.30** Spreading Ocean.
6.55 The Jews of Leeds: Members of the city's 18,000 community explain the events that have given Leeds its Jewish tradition. In this first of two films we hear about the flight from Russia in the 1880s; what life was like in the Leeds ghetto and the exploitation of the sweatshops
7.25 News: including a sub-titled synopsis for the hard-of-hearing.
7.40 The Hollywood Greats: Barry Norman presents the first of five programmes featuring famous names from the Golden Age of Hollywood. His subject tonight is the incomparable Charlie Chaplin.
8.30 Hooked! The first in a series of six programmes featuring thirty of the country's leading coarse anglers competing for a BBC trophy. Each week the matches will be introduced by a fishing-mad celebrity beginning with Frankie Vaughan (see Personal Choice).
9.00 Pot Black 81: Tonight is the final and battling it out over the best of three frames will be two Canadians, Jim Wych and Cliff Thorburn. The action is introduced by Alan Weeks and the commentary is by Ted Lowe.
10.00 One Man and His Dog: Phil Drabble introduces the first semi-final which is between Alasdair Mundell of Scotland and Raymond MacPherson of England. In addition the brace competition in which competitors have to control two sheepdogs begins with Jim McConnell of Ireland against Gwilym Jones from Wales.
10.40 William Fong: (piano) plays Berceuse by Chopin
10.45 Newsnight: The latest news plus additional information on the stories that made today's headlines. The programme ends at 11.35.

Thames

9.30 am For Schools: Mathematical concepts for the young; 9.47 Believe it or Not. One God?; 10.04 Guitars and guitarists; 10.26 Exploring the Welsh Dee with Bill Grundy; 10.48 Megnetochemistry — A-level chemistry; 11.05 Maths for seven to nine year olds; 11.22 Starting Science for young children; 11.39 Examples of work and leisure in young family life.
12.00 Cockleshell Bay. The animated adventures of the Cockle twins for young viewers. 12.10 pm Pipkins. Puppets for the very young.
12.30 The Sullivans. Drama series about an Australian family during World War Two.
1.00 News. 1.20 Thames News.
1.30 Crown Court. Continuing the case of the widow accused of assault, theft and blackmail on a fellow widow who befriended her.
2.00 After Noon Plus. Popular magazine programme introduced today by Judith Chalmers. **2.45 The Mallens.** Another episode in the tempestuous romantic drama story set in Northumberland during the nineteenth century (r). **3.45 Barney Miller.** Police Captain Miller has in his custody a shop lifter who admits no more serious crimes.
4.15 Dr Snuggles. Adventures of an ageing inventor. **4.20 Take a Chance.** The Rose Marie Hotel hopes to win a competition for the tidiest hotel in town. **4.45 Ace Reports.** Live action and entertainment for pre-teenagers presented by Sharron Davies, Bob Goody, Brian Jacks and Wayne Laryea. **5.15 Emmerdale Farm.** There is a shock in store for Jack Sugden.
5.45 News. 6.00 Thames News. 6.25 Help! Viv Taylor Gee with news about Parents Anonymous, an organization based in London which gives advice to parents who ill-treat their children.
6.35 Crossroads. 7.00 Looks Familiar. Denis Norden with his guests Bob Monkhouse, Alfred Marks and Tommy Trinder reminisce about the show business stars of the Thirties and Forties.
7.30 Bognor. When a friend of the Duchess of Dorset wins an award at a big Dog Show, envious rivals believe it is really a dog belonging to the Duchess, which should still be in quarantine. How can our sleuth prove it?
8.00 Robin's Nest. In this the last in the series Robin is offered a lucrative job with a large multi-national company. To accept the post he must sell his bistro. Will it come to that? **8.30 Max Bygraves.** With the help of Geoff Love and orchestra Max takes a nostalgic look back at the year 1928 when television began and Blackburn Rovers won the Cup (r).
9.00 Play: The Reason of Things by Freda Kelsall. Alec McCowan and Margaret Tyzack star as an antique dealer and his former teacher who meet up again when he returns to his home town on a mission prompted by schoolday memories (see Personal Choice).
10.30 Academy Awards. Highlights of Hollywood's night of the year introduced by Johnny Carson. There is sure to be lots of tears and humility on show but the film clips should be worth watching.
12.10 am Close.

RADIO

Radio 4

6.00 am News Briefing.
6.10 Farming Today.
6.30 Today.
7.00, 8.00 News.
7.30, 8.30 Headlines. 8.35 Yesterday in Parliament.
9.00 News.
9.05 Tuesday Call.
10.00 News.
10.02 From Our Own Correspondent.
10.30 Daily Service.
10.45 The Diaries of Edith Douglas (1)
11.00 News.
11.05 Play: Taurus, by Sam Smith: Who's on Robert Davis.
11.35 Wildlife.
12.00 News.
12.02 pm You and Yours.
12.27 Round Your Way.
12.55 Weather.
1.00 The World at One.
1.40 The Archers.
1.55 Shipping forecast.
2.00 News.
2.02 Woman's Hour.
3.00 News.
3.02 The House of Mirth (2)
4.00 Science through the Looking Glass (2).
4.15 The Death of April Merrin
4.45 A Study in Scarlet (2).
5.00 PM
5.55 Weather.
6.00 News.
6.30 Brain of Britain
7.00 News.
7.05 The Archers.
7.20 Medicine Now.
7.50 The Countryside in Early Spring.
8.35 Love's Old Sweet Song (4).
9.05 In Touch.
9.30 Kaleidoscope.
10.00 The World Tonight.
10.30 Cliche (2)
11.00 Anna of the Five Towns (12).
11.15 Financial World Tonight.
11.30 Today in Parliament.
12.00 News.
12.15am-12.23 Shipping forecast

VHF
9.05 am Schools: Deutsch fur die Oberstufe (10). Music Interlude, Voix de France (10). Music Interlude; News, Music Interlude, Playtime
10.30-10.45 Listen with Mother.
11.00-12.00 Schools: Lets Move!, Music Interlude; Introducing Science.
2.00 pm-3.00 Schools: History — Long Ago; Secondary Science; Stories and Rhymes.
11.00 Study on 4: Euromagazine — Edition Francaise (2).
11.30-12.10 am Open University Aural Training (2). Radio as Environment.

Radio 3

6.55 am Weather.
7.00 News.
7.05 Records: Schumann, Bizet, Svendsen, Stravinsky.†
8.00 News.
8.05 Records: Mozart, Berwald (sym in E flat)†
9.00 News.
9.05 Week's Composer: Delius (Hassan).†
10.15 Piano trio: Brahms (op 8).†
10.50 Recorders: Tippett, Staeps.†
11.15 BBC Welsh SO/Berglund: Tchaikovsky (Vln Conc — Ricci), Beethoven (Sym 3).†
1.00 pm News.
1.05 Six Continents.
1.25 Songs (L Wolf): Schumann, H Wolf.†
2.00 Harpsichord (Pinnock): Rameau.†
2.35 Salzburg Mozarteum Orch/Wimberger: Mozart (incl Sym 10).†
3.25 Cricket: West Indies v England.†
3.35 Mainly for Pleasure.†
5.20 The Poetry of John Donne (1).
5.30 Records: Delius.
6.00 LSO/Abbado (Live from Festival Hall), pt 1: Mussorgsky.†
8.35 Story: Lethbridge, by Dave Moore.
8.55 LSO, pt 2: Mussorgsky (incl Pictures).†
9.55 Hammerman: portrait of Alfred Williams.† (See Personal Choice.)
11.00 News.
11.05 Records: Brahms.†
11.15-11.30 Cricket.

VHF
5.55 am-6.55 Open University: The Metaphysical Poets; James Clerk Maxwell: The Influence of Corelli.
3.25 pm Piano trios: Beethoven (op 1 no 1), Shostakovich (op 67).†
4.25 Jazz Today.†
4.55 News.
5.00-5.35 Mainly for Pleasure† (mw joins at 5.35).
11.15-12.55 am Open University: Computing and Computers; The Common Agricultural Policy; Tax Avoidance: Law, Newspapers and Technological Change

Radio 2

5.00 am Bob Kilbey.† 7.30 Terry Wogan.† 10.00 Jimmy Young.† 12.00 David Hamilton.† 2.00 pm Ed Stewart.† 4.00 Much More Music.† 6.00 John Dunn.† 8.00 The Leading Ladies.† 9.00 The Songwriters.† 10.00 Test Match. 10.30 Wit's End. 11.00 Brian Matthew. 2.00 am-5.00 You and the Night and the Music.†

Radio 1

5.00 am As Radio 2. 7.00 Mike Read. 9.00 Simon Bates. 11.00 Andy Peebles. 12.30 pm Newsbeat. 12.45 Paul Burnett. 2.30 Steve Wright. 4.30 Peter Powell. 7.00 Talkabout. 8.00 Richard Skinner. 10.00 John Peel.† 12.00 Close.
VHF RADIOS 1 and 2: 5.00 am With Radio 2. 10.00 With Radio 1. 12.00-5.00 am With Radio 2.

World Service

BBC World Service can be received in Western Europe on medium wave (648 kHz, 463m) at the following times GMT. 6.00 am Newsdesk. 7.00 World News [illegible] Baker's Half-Dozen 4.45 The World Today. 5.00 World News 5.09 Scotland This Week 5.15 My Word! 8.00 World News 8.09 Twenty-four Hours 9.15 The Pleasure's Yours 10.00 World News 10.09 The World Today 10.25 Scotland This Week 10.30 Financial News 10.40 Reflections 10.45 Sport Round-up 11.00 World News 11.09 Commentary 11.15 Classical Record Review 11.30 Brain of Britain 1981 12.00 World News 12.09 am News about Britain 12.15 Radio Newsreel 12.30 A Jolly Good Show 1.15 Outlook 1.45 Report on Religion 2.00 World News 2.09 Review of the British Press 2.15 Four Hands in Harmony 2.30 With Great Pleasure 3.00 World News 3.09 News about Britain 3.15 The World Today 3.30 Discovery 4.00 Newsdesk 5.45 The World Today.

WAVELENGTHS: Radio 1 medium wave 275m/1089kHz or 285m/1053kHz. Radio 2 med wave 330m/909kHz or 433m/693kHz and 88-91 VHF. Radio 3 med wave 247/1215kHz and 90-92.5 VHF. Radio 4 long wave 1500m/200kHz and 92-95 VHF. Greater London area only; med wave 720kHz/417m. LBC 261m. 97.3 VHF, Capital 194m, 95.8 VHF. World Service; med wave 648kHz (463m). BBC Radio London 206m, 94.9 VHF.

REGIONAL TV

Scottish
As Thames except: 12.30 pm-1.00 Gardening Today 1.20-1.30 News. 3.45-4.15 Looks Familiar 5.15 Pet Subject. 5.20-5.45 Crossroads. 6.00 Scotland Today. 6.20 Job Spot 6.30 What's Your Problem? 7.00-7.30 Emmerdale Farm. 12.10 am-12.15 Late Call.

Yorkshire
As Thames except: 12.30 pm-1.00 Looks Familiar 1.20-1.30 News 3.45-4.15 Calendar. 5.15-5.45 Touch of Fashion. 6.00-6.35 Calendar. 7.00-7.30 Emmerdale Farm.

Ulster
As Thames except: 1.20 pm-1.30 Lunchtime. 3.45 Looks Familiar. 4.13-4.15 News. 5.15 Cartoon 5.20-5.45 Crossroads. 6.00 Good Evening Ulster. 7.00-7.30 Emmerdale Farm. 12.10 am-12.20 Bedtime.

Border
As Thames except: 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 3.45-4.15 Looks Familiar. 5.15-5.45 Benson. 6.00-6.35 Lookaround. 7.00-7.30 Emmerdale Farm. 12.10 am-12.13 News.

Anglia
As Thames except: 12.30pm-1.00 Gardening Today. 1.20-1.30 News. 3.45-4.15 Looks Familiar. 6.00-6.35 About Anglia. 7.00 Life Begins at Forty. 12.10 am Pilgrim Ways.

ATV
As Thames except: 12.30 pm-1.00 Gardening Today 1.20-1.30 News. 3.45-4.15 Looks Familiar 5.15-5.45 Diff'rent Strokes. 6.00 News. 6.05 Crossroads. 6.30 ATV Today. 7.00-7.30 Emmerdale Farm. 8.00-9.00 Final of Miss ATV. 12.10 am News.

Southern
As Thames except: 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 3.45-4.15 Looks Familiar. 5.15 Betty Boop 5.20-5.45 Crossroads. 6.00 Day by Day. 7.00-7.30 Emmerdale Farm. 12.10 am Weather followed by Being a Christian.

Granada
As Thames except: 1.20 pm-1.30 Granada Reports. 3.45-4.15 Looks Familiar. 5.15-5.45 Mork and Mindy 6.00 Granada Reports. 6.25 This is Your Right. 6.30 Crossroads. 7.00-7.30 Emmerdale Farm. 12.10 am-12.15 After All That, This.

Tyne Tees
As Thames except: Starts 9.20 am Good Word. 9.25-9.30 News. 1.20 pm-1.30 News, Lookaround. 3.45-4.15 Looks Familiar. 5.15-5.45 Electric Theatre Show 6.00 News. 6.02 Crossroads. 6.25 Northern Life. 7.00-7.30 Emmerdale Farm. 10.30 News. 10.32 1981 Academy Awards. 12.00-12.05 am Family Prayer.

Grampian
As Thames except: Starts 9.25 am-9.30 First Thing 12.30 pm-1.00 Simply Sewing. 1.20-1.30 News. 3.45-4.15 Looks Familiar 6.00-6.35 North Tonight 7.00-7.30 Entertainers. 12.10 am-12.15 News.

Westward
As Thames except: Starts 12.27 pm Gus Honeybun's Birthdays 12.30-1.00 Gardening Today 1.20-1.30 News 3.45-4.15 Looks Familiar 6.00-6.35 Westward Diary. 7.00-7.30 Benson 10.31 News 10.34 1981 Academy Awards. 12.10 am-12.15 Faith for Life

HTV
As Thames except: Starts 12.30 pm-1.00 George Hamilton IV. 1.20-1.30 News. 3.45-4.15 Looks Familiar 5.15 Day At The Zoo 5.20-5.45 Crossroads. 6.00 Report West 6.30 Definition 7.00-7.30 Emmerdale Farm. 10.28-10.30 News
HTV CYMRU/WALES: As HTV West except: 9.47 am-10.02 Interlude 10.48-11.03 Believe It Or Not 12.00 pm-12.05 Poli A Pili 12.05-12.10 Calimero. 4.15-4.45 Gwesty Gwirion 6.00-6.15 Y Dydd. 6.15-6.30 Report Wales.

Channel
As Thames except: 12.00 Closedown. 12.30 pm-1.00 Gardening Today 1.20-1.30 News 3.45-4.15 Looks Familiar 6.00-6.35 Channel Report 7.00-7.30 Benson. 10.28 News 10.34-12.10 am 1981 Academy Awards.

Entertainments Guide

Classified Guide

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"... FOR it is written —As I live, saith the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall confess to God." Romans 14: 11.

BIRTHS

ARCHER-PERKINS.—On March 28th, at Basingstoke District Hospital, to Jane (nee Hunt) and Richard—a daughter (Emily Charlotte), sister to James and Simon.

BEVAN.—On March 26th, at West Suffolk Hospital, to Philippa and Rupert—a daughter (Katharine Beckford).

BOWEY.—On March 29th, at Winchester, to Jean and Guy—a son, a brother for Oliver.

BUCHANAN.—On March 23rd, in Bristol, to Angela (nee Barlow) and Andrew—a son (David Andrew).

CRAVEN.—On February 27th, 1981, at Forth Park Hospital, Kirkcaldy, to Ann (nee Wilkinson) and Kenneth—a son (Stuart Ronald).

DUNCAN.—On March 23rd, to Sara (nee Marden-King) and Bruce—a daughter (Hannah Louise Sasha).

FABERIJ DE JONGE-FULLER.—On March 27th, in Amstelveen, Holland, to Jane and Jan Peter—a son (Christian Peter Arie).

FABRICIUS.—On March 24th, at Birmingham Maternity Hospital, to Emily (nee Tiange) and Peter—a son (Michael John).

FARQUHAR.—On March 28th, at Ninewells Hospital, Dundee, to Pauline (nee Wandless) and Jim—a daughter (Alice).

GARRIGAN.—On 29th March, at Queen Mary's, Roehampton, to Mary and Jon—a son (Daniel Patrick Joseph), a brother for Katherine, Thomas and Benedicte Lucy.

GHOMIZADEH. — On March 13th, 1981, at the Royal Free Hospital, Hampstead, to Catherine and Issa—a son (Farhad).

KENNEY.—On March 29th, 1981, to Joan (nee Welsh) and Julian—a son (Benjamin Anthony).

NICHOLS.—On March 29th, at the Middlesex Hospital, London, to Susan (nee Sury) and Andrew—a son.

ROSE.—On March 25th, 1981, at Royal Hampshire County Hospital, Winchester, to Beverley and Jim—a son (Alexander James).

SCOTT.—On 29th March, to Caroline, wife of Charles—a daughter.

SHERINGHAM.—On March 26th, in Canterbury, to Priscilla (nee Dunamee) and Michael—a daughter (Olivia Yvette), a sister for Samuel.

WESTRAY.—On March 28th, to Annabel and Allan—twin sons (Simon and Oliver), brothers for Catharine.

YOUNG.—On 29th March, to Anne (nee Ellis) and Barry Young—a daughter (Sarah Anne).

BIRTHDAYS

BARRY.—Birthday felicitations to my delicious 40 year old hero.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY to the girl I will always love.—Renzo XXX.

DEATHS

BANGS, NANCY MARGARET (nee Brown), of Le Felugre, Jerbourg Rd., St Martins, Guernsey.—Peacefully, on 28th March. Funeral at 12 noon, Tuesday, 31st March at the Town Church, St Peter Port, Guernsey.

BOSTOCK.—On March 30, Meta Agnes, widow of Robert Bostock of Odiham. Private cremation. Memorial service at Winchfield Parish Church at 2 p.m. on Friday, April 3rd. Family flowers only.

BOYCE.—On March 31, Winsome, dear wife of Carlton Boyce and devoted mother of Sam, after a long painful illness, borne with great fortitude. Cremation at Tunbridge Wells, Monday, April 6 at 11 a.m.

BURTON, GENNIFER.—On Sunday, 29th March, 1981, suddenly, Gennifer Constance, much-loved wife of Terence Burton, mother of Carey, Julie, Anna and Sheena, all of Foxhole, Matfield, Kent. Only daughter of Roger and Constance Hartley, Solicitor, of Partons of Southborough and Pembury, to whom all inquiries should be made (Tunbridge Wells 1777).

CARLOSS (T. E.), CHARLES.—On 27th March, 1981, peacefully, in his sleep, deeply loved husband of Marty, and beloved father of Judy. Funeral service on Friday, 3rd April at 11 a.m. at St. Mary's R.C. Church, Kensal Green, Harrow Rd., W.10. Flowers if wished to J. Richards & Sons, 149 Kentish Town Rd., N.W.1.

CLIFFAS.—On March 27th, after a long illness, Christina Hilda Henderson, aged 83, of 22 Cadogan Place, London, S.W.1. Born Bendigo, Australia, beloved wife of Victor and dearly loved mother of Vickie. Funeral service will take place on Thursday, 2nd April, 1981, at 12.20 p.m., Golders Green Crematorium, East Chapel. Inquiries: J. H. Kenyon Ltd. 01-937 0757.

COCKS.—Suddenly on March 26, in hospital, Hugh Tannatus, aged 63 years, beloved husband of Henrietta and dearly loved father of Angela and Hugh. Cremation at Tunbridge Wells Crematorium on Thursday, April 2, at 12 noon. Enquiries to Mercer & Sons, 20 Sedlescombe Road North, St. Leonards-on-Sea. Telephone Hastings 421803.

COTTON.—On March 28th, suddenly at home, Michael James Cotton, C.B.E., of Haslemere, Surrey, Deputy Chairman of International Military Services Ltd., beloved husband of Dorsey, much loved father of Jill and loving grandfather of Charlotte and Joanna. Funeral private. Please, no letters or flowers. Memorial service to be announced later.

CRANE.—On March 27th, 1981, peacefully in Kidderminster General Hospital, Edward Nicholas Goodden, of Oakhampton, Stourport-on-Severn, Worcestershire, aged 64 years. Much loved husband of Betty, father of Nicky, Miriam and Penelope, grandfather of Paul, Jenny, Naomi, Peter and Helen. Funeral service at St. Peter's Church, Astley, near Stourport-on-Severn, Worcestershire on Friday, April 3rd at 2 p.m., followed by private cremation at Worcester crematorium. Family flowers only please, donations if desired to Astley Church.

GRITTON, VIVIAN HENRY.—On March 28 in hospital in Bordeaux. Beloved husband of Colette and father of Mary and Stephen. Formerly of Great Bookham, Surrey and until 1978 partner of Sir William Halcrow and Partners. Funeral service at Lussac nr Pechalifour, France at 1500 hrs on Wednesday, April 1.

FOX, Honourable Myra Alice.—On 27th March, 1981, at Croxton Park, beloved mother of Gina and much-loved grandmother of David and Gabrielle Telfer Smollett. Funeral and service of thanksgiving at St. James Church, Croxton, at noon on Saturday, 4th April.

FRANKLIN.—On 27th March, suddenly, at home, at Lulworth, Dorset, Percy John Franklin, F.C.I.O.B., aged 68 years, chairman of the Reema Construction Company, darling husband of Daphne, and a dearly loved father and grandfather. Funeral private. Donations in his memory may be sent to the Asthma Research Council, 12 Pembridge Sq., London, W.2. Memorial service to be announced.

HOLLOWOOD.—On March 28th, 1981, Albert Bernard Hollowood, of Shamley Green, Surrey, writer and cartoonist, beloved husband, father and grandfather. Funeral at Guildford Crematorium, 3 p.m., Thursday, April 2nd.

HOUGHTON-BECKFORD.—On 22 March, 1981, after a long illness bravely borne, Brigadier Frank William, late Royal Artillery, beloved husband of Helen Imogen (nee Warren).

HUNT.—On March 28, 1981 peacefully in hospital after a long illness, borne with great courage, Renee Redfern Hunt, M.B.E., of Surbiton, Surrey, much loved sister of Betty and Stanley and sister-in-law of John. Funeral at St Matthew's Church, St Matthews Avenue, Surbiton, Friday, April 3, at 9 a.m., followed by interment at Putney Vale Cemetery.

KENYON.—On 29th March, 1981, in hospital, Alec Lomax Kenyon FRCS, of 124 Grove Lane, Cheadle Hulme, Cheshire. Beloved husband of Peggy. Dearly-loved father of Christopher and Andrew. Dear father-in-law to Jeni and Joanna, and loving Grandpa to Duncan and Stuart. Funeral service in Christ Church, Woodford, Cheshire, on Thursday, 2nd April, at 1pm, and afterwards private cremation. Flowers from the family only, please, but if wished gifts in memoriam for The British Digestive Foundation may be sent to the funeral directors: J. G. Ashton, 20 Altrincham Road, Wilmslow. Tel 533516.

KERR.—On 28th March, 1981, at 2 Abbey Lodge, N.W.8, Charles Cecil Kerr, husband of Florence and of the late Kathleen (Meyrick), second son of Charles Ferguson Kerr, of Greenock and Helensburgh. Funeral 12.50 p.m. Wednesday, 1st April, at the crematorium, Golders Green. Flowers to Leverton & Sons Ltd., 212 Eversholt St., London, N.W.1.

***KERSHAW.**—On 28th March, 1981,* peacefully at home Raymond Newton Kershaw, CMG, MC, dear husband of Hilda and father of Alison, Stephen and Richard. Funeral service private, family flowers only.

McCLEMENT.—On March 28, 1981, peacefully at The Sue Rider Home, Cavendish, Evelyn Mary aged 87 years, dearly beloved wife of the late Gerard. Enquiries regarding the funeral arrangements, flowers & donations may be made to L. Fulcher Ltd., 80 Whiting Street, Bury St. Edmunds. Tel.: 4041.

NEWBURN.—On 28th March, peacefully at home in her 103rd year, Priscilla, dear mother of Finn. Funeral service Daglingworth Church, Thursday, 2nd April, at 2 p.m., followed by private interment at Winstone. No mourning, no flowers, please, but if desired donations may be sent for Daglingworth Church, care of Lloyds Bank Ltd., Cirencester, Glos.

MURDOCH.—Peacefully on 29th March in Sao Paulo, just 10 days short of his 80th birthday, Hugh Cyril, beloved husband, father and grandfather. "Henceforth there is laid up a Crown".—2 Tim 4: 6-8.

OLDFIELD.—On Thursday, March 26th, suddenly at Frobisher House, Dolphin Square, London, Christopher Charles Bayley, much loved father of Carolyn and Richard. Private cremation, followed by service of thanksgiving and interment of Ashes on Friday, April 3rd at 2.30 p.m. at St. Andrew's, Laverstock, nr Salisbury, Wiltshire. Flowers to J. H. Kenyon, 01-834 4624.

PETCH.—On March 29th, Sir Louis Petch, K.C.B., loved and loving husband of Gwen, dear father and father-in-law to Jane, William and Caroline, devoted grandfather to Megan, Maria, Joanna, Lisa and Emily. Funeral service at St. Mary's Parish Church, Twickenham, on 6th April, at 12 noon. No flowers, by request, but donations to National Society for Cancer Relief, 30 Dorset Square, N.W.1.

PORTE.—On 27th March, 1981, in a nursing home in Hove, Betty, widow of John Cyril Porte (pioneer aviator). Funeral service at the Down Crematorium, Brighton, on Friday, April 3rd, at 2.30. Donations may be sent to R.N.I.B., care of Attree & Kent, 108 Church Road, Hove.

RELF.—On 30th March, 1981, at home Richard D. Relf. Funeral service at St Andrew's Church, Much Hadham, Herts, at 1 pm, on Friday, 3rd April, 1981, followed by private cremation. No flowers, please.

SHELDON, MARY.—On 27th March, 1981, aged 76 years, in St. Stephen's Hospital, S.W.10. Survived by her only daughter, Mrs Doramwan of Pennsylvania.

SMITH.—On March 28th, peacefully in her sleep, aged 85, Grace Margaret (Rider) Smith, widow of John Rider Smith. Funeral service Friday, April 3rd, at 2.30 p.m. at the United Reform Church, Kings Road, Chandlers Ford. No flowers but donations if desired to the Shaftesbury Society or C.W.M.

SUTTON.—On March 27th, 1981, after a long illness, at Princess Margaret Hospital, Swindon, John Alexander Sutton, aged 65 years, of Badbury Wick House, Chiseldon, Wilts, dear husband of Deirdre and father of Charles and Grania. Funeral Wednesday, April 1st. Service at Church of the Holy Cross, Chiseldon, at 11.15 am, followed by interment at the cemetery. Family flowers only, no letters. Donations in lieu to Jockeys Association of Great Britain (Injured Jockeys Fund), 1 Bridge Street, Newbury, Berks. Enquiries to A. E. Smith & Son, Queens Drive, Swindon (Tel 22033).

WALKER.—On March 28th, peacefully at home, Archway House, Aylsham, Norfolk, Catriona Macmillan, beloved wife of David. Funeral St. Michaels Church, Aylsham, Wednesday, April 1st, at 1.45 p.m. Family flowers only.

YATE-LEE.—On March 27 peacefully in a Nursing Home, Lieutenant Colonel Delvin (Streaky) Yate-Lee, dear husband of Marjorie. Cremation private. No letters or flowers please. Donations if desired to St Barnabas Nursing Home, Columbia Drive, Worthing, West Sussex.

MEMORIAL SERVICES

BRYCESON.—A service of thanksgiving for the life of Derek Bryceson, of Tanzania, will be held in the Church of St Clement Danes, Strand, London, at 12 noon on Friday, April 3rd.

COWEN.—A service of thanksgiving for the life of John David Cowen will be held at 12 noon on Saturday, 4th April, 1981, at St. Martin-in-the-Fields, Trafalgar Square, London.

STUART HORNER.—A memorial service for Colonel Bernard Stuart Horner, OBE, will be held at St Botolph's Without Aldersgate, on Thursday, 23rd April, 1981, at 11 am.

IN MEMORIAM

HMS BONAVENTURE.—In memory of those who lost their lives in HMS Bonaventure, March 31st, 1941.

RIDEHALGH.—In loving memory of George William Ridehalgh, who gave his life in the service of his country, March 31, 1940.

HOWARD, VERNON SIMON.—In loving memory of my husband who died on March 31st, 1978. Hilla.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

University of Exeter

CONVOCATION

Members of Convocation are invited to submit for consideration the names of persons considered suitable for appointment to the office of Chancellor of the University in succession to the late Lord Amory. Nominations including relevant biographical details and the reasons why a nominee might be suitable for appointment should be sent to the Academic Registrar and Secretary at the University by 24 April, 1981.

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(continued on page 15)

The Times Crossword Puzzle No 15,488

ACROSS

1 Reprimanded where there's a pile-up? (8).
9 Regular charge for the meal (8).
10 In common parlance do you know O'Casey's Mrs Boyle? (4).
11 I conquered like Caesar by ship. Somehow it used to mean changes (12).
13 Hardy's Victory sign? (6).
14 Infuse with Dutch courage (8).
15 When to start if possible (2, 5).
16 Pushes on with opening of play—ropes money in (7).
20 Chenille, oddly enough, coming from Greece (8).
22 "... the stars rush out: At one—comes the dark" (Coleridge) (6).
23 Flower-girl was the singer's 18 (4, 2, 6).
25 Time out for "cowardly" Englishmen (4).
26 Making a thousand dollars in Islamic state, leave the country (8).
27 Gave up, being plastered (8).

DOWN

2 More than enough for an oriental envy worker? (5).
3 Reply Bolivar translated thus became a byword (12).
4 Drops down to cheat the French... (8).
5 ... and cheats relatives with thin leather (7).
6 Swirls from an overheated diesel engine (6).
7 Minor charge for district patients? (4).
8 My round? Of course. Don't forget me! (8).
12 Attribute of the wild-sounding Mrs Arbuthnot (12).
15 He had a high place among one's 20 heroes (8).
17 Artists inserted the infamous monk (5).
18 23 was also the singer's Rose (4-4).
19 Mud-remover damaged rep's car (7).
21 Afraid? Definitely not! (2, 4).
24 Put down face up (4).

Solution of Puzzle No 15,487

[illegible]

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